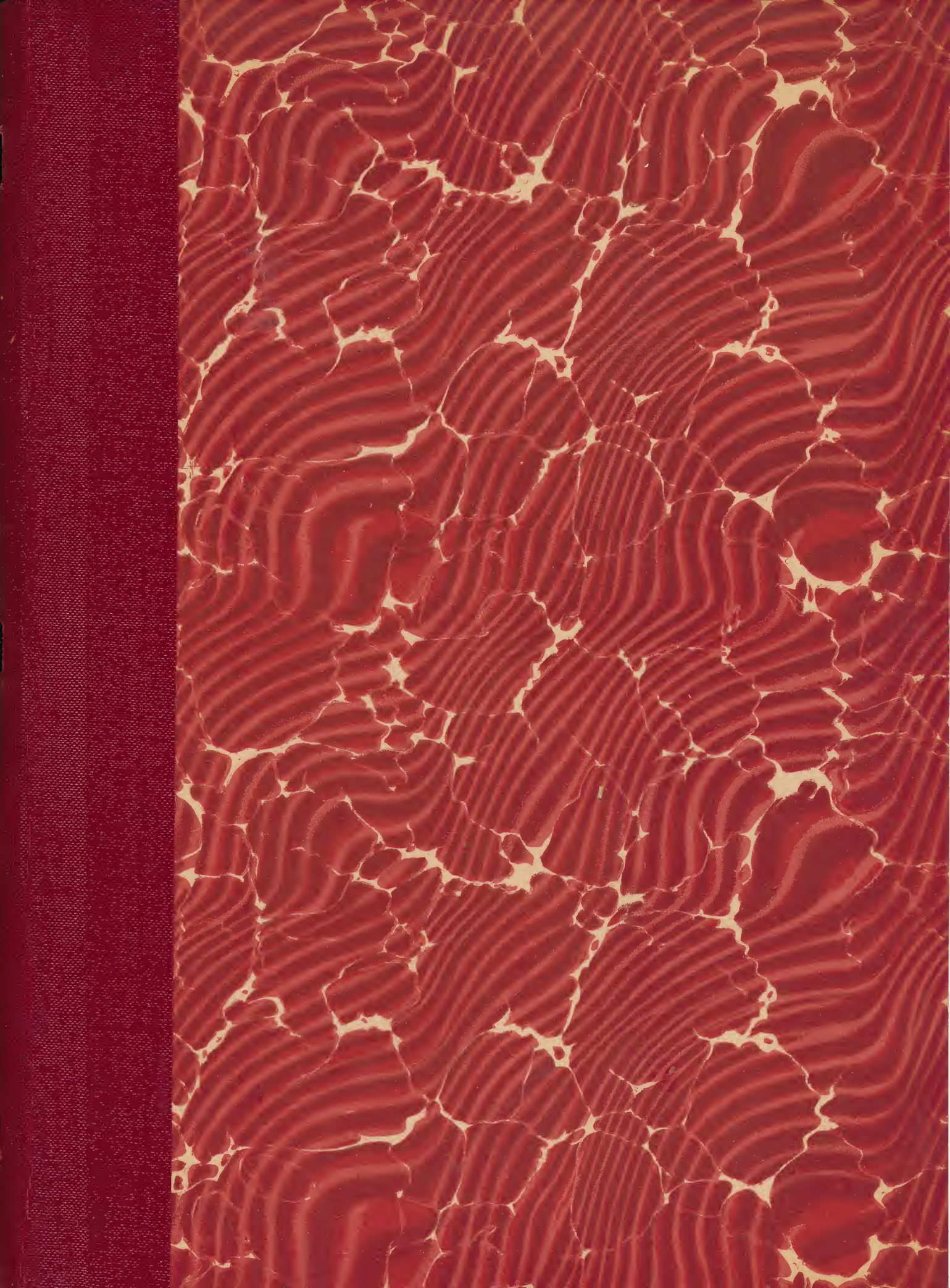


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HISTORICAL
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ROBERT JOSEPH MERRILL

NEW YORK: 1913



First Church of Christ Scientist

First Church of Christ Scientist

F I R S T C H U R C H O F C H R I S T
S C I E N T I S T

-o-

In the spring of 1896, three or four people were gathered together every Sunday at the residence of two of their number for the purpose of learning more of the teachings of Christian Science.

A year and one-half later the regular attendance had increased to such an extent a Sunday School had been established and it became evident that a public place of meeting must be secured. A room in Parsons' Business College was engaged, and the first public service of First Church of Christ, Scientist, was held there on Easter Sunday of 1898. Two months later a church was legally organized and incorporated.

In December 1900 a Reading Room was opened on West Main street. These quarters soon proved inadequate and more commodious rooms were secured and furnished where the Reading Room remained until moved into its present quarters in the Kalamazoo National Bank Building, August 1907.

In 1902, the land on which the present edifice stands was bought and the building which stood upon

THE HISTORY OF THE

REPUBLIC OF THE

—

In the early part of the year 1776, the people of the colony were informed that the British government had declared its intention of separating the colonies from the empire.

The people of the colony were divided in their opinions. Some were in favor of remaining loyal to the British government, while others were in favor of declaring independence. The latter party was the more numerous, and they were supported by the leading men of the colony. On the 4th of July, 1776, the Continental Congress declared the colonies independent of the British government.

The declaration of independence was a bold step, and it was followed by a long and arduous struggle. The British government sent a large army to the colonies, and they fought the Battle of the Clouds on the 10th of September, 1776. The British were victorious, but they were unable to capture the city of New York. The Continental Congress fled to Lancaster and then to York, where they were captured by the British on the 19th of October, 1776.

the lot at that time was remodeled to meet the existing needs of the church.

In June 1912 the church body voted to build the present edifice. The corner stone was laid October 1913, and a little less than a year later, September 1914, the first service was held in the building.

As it is customary among all Christian Science Churches not to dedicate their church building until free from all financial encumbrance, the dedication of this Church was held June 7, 1920.

Ninetieth Anniversary

RECORD OF PROGRESS AND DIRECTORY

The First Reformed Church

Kalamazoo, Michigan

1850 - 1940



Organized - April, 1850

Commemorated - October 17 and 18, 1940



THE FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF KALAMAZOO
Corner Church and Academy Streets
Kalamazoo, Michigan

Foreword

"Living by Faith and not by Sight", four score and ten years ago our pioneer fathers were led to leave their beloved homeland, come to a strange country and to this fair city of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

That same force led them to build almost immediately a place of worship to their God. Then they organized a church for Christian fellowship and for the instruction of themselves as well as their children in the Word of God.

For almost a century this church has stood in Kalamazoo as a lighthouse. Through the years it has grown in numbers, in spiritual power and in its influence in our city for righteousness. From it has gone the light to many people of other lands and races. Verily, it has been a house of prayer for many nations.

Out of it, too, have grown many of the other Reformed Churches of Kalamazoo.

Now, as we pause for a moment and look backward, we exclaim in wonder, "What hath God wrought?" His love and His power alone has led us and helped us and to Him be all the glory and all the praise!

Let us also pay a tribute to our noble forefathers who built so well with so much self-sacrifice and consecration. They have left to us a rich heritage.

Looking to the future, let us here earnestly resolve to hold firm to the faith that sustained them, to place our hope for all the years to come in Jesus Christ, the head of the church and our personal Savior. With love filling our hearts, let us dedicate ourselves fully and completely to Him and to the building of His Kingdom. As our forefathers bequeathed to us such a great heritage, may we pass it on untarnished to those who follow us.

Realizing that we cannot do this in our own wisdom nor by our own power, we would ask you all to join with us in this our pledge and prayer.

Lead on, O King Eternal
We follow not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning
Where'er Thy face appears.
Thy cross is lifted o'er us,
We journey in its light;
The crown awaits the conquest.
Lead on, O God of Light!

NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY

PROGRAM

OCTOBER 17, 1940

REV. A. DE YOUNG, D.D., *presiding*

Organ and Piano Prelude.....	Mr. John Weenink and Miss Sally Ter Beck
Hymn No. 140—"The Church's One Foundation".....	Audience standing
Prayer	Rev. P. A. De Jong
"The Lord Is My Light".....	Male Quartet
By Carrie B. Adams	
Scripture Reading—Psalm 122; Luke 13: 18-21.....	Rev. A. Van Zante
"Bless This House".....	Junior Choir
By M. Brahe-Samuelson	
Greetings from Classis of Kalamazoo.....	Rev. A. Rynbrandt
Greetings from Kalamazoo Ministerial Alliance.....	Rev. W. A. Keith, D.D.
Remarks	Rev. A. De Young, D.D.
Greetings by Former Pastors.....	{ Rev. J. Steunenberg Rev. J. J. Hollebrands
Offering	Organ, Piano and Violin Trio
Communications	Mr. N. VandenBerge
"Hallelujah Chorus" from the "Messiah".....	Church Choir
By G. P. Handel	
Hymn No. 143—"I Love Thy Kingdom Lord".....	Audience standing
Anniversary Address	Rev. J. R. Mulder, D.D., W.T.S.
Hymn No. 311—"Lead On, O King Eternal".....	Audience standing
Benediction	Rev. J. A. Veldman
Gloria Patri	Audience standing
Organ and Piano Postlude.....	Mr. John Weenink and Miss Sally Ter Beck

OCTOBER 18, 1940

THE PAGEANT OF THE CHURCH

This pageant has been based upon the word we find on our cover page — Faith — The Faith of Our Fathers. It is a succession of episodes depicting for us the faith that brought them here to America, built their church, trained their children and sent out the gospel to the wide world.

The "Spirit of the Church" also bids her maidens show us some of the avenues through which faith is being built into the hearts and lives of people to-day.

Prelude.....	Piano, Violin, and Male Quartet	Fifth Episode.....	The Sunday-school
Prologue...Trumpeter and The Spirit of the Church		Scene I—A Sunday-school Class	
First Episode.....	Leaving the Fatherland	Scene II—A Sunday-school Picnic	
Second Episode.....	Felling the Forest	Scene III—Activities with the Y.M.C.A.	
Third Episode.....	The First Pastor	Sixth Episode.....	The Christian Endeavor
Scene I—Signing the Call		Seventh Episode...	The Women's Missionary Society
Scene II—Installing the First Pastor		Eighth Episode.....	The Brotherhood
Fourth Episode.....	Training the Children	Ninth Episode.....	Youth Speaks
Scene I—Baptism		Finale.....	"Lead On, O King Eternal"
Scene II—Bed-time Prayer			
Scene III—Catechism			

Historical Background

Ninety years ago the first Holland colony arrived in Western Michigan and founded the city of Holland. It was this group headed by Rev. Albertus C. Van Raalte, which formed the beginning of an immigration from the Netherlands, which was destined to have a dominant effect in the development of this section of the state. It paved the way for those men and women who were to become leading and influential citizens in Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Grand Haven, Muskegon, and other communities of Western Michigan. It has been said that the Holland colonists of 1847 furnished this country with the only immigration that in spirit and purpose can be truly said to resemble the settlement of New England by the Pilgrim Fathers.

Immigration of the Hollanders here ninety years ago was religious in its motive. At the close of the war with Spain a state church was established in the Netherlands with a creed defined by the Synod of Dordrecht held in 1618. In 1816 King William I established an arbitrary revision of church government. It was this action which led to the Separation of 1833 and 1834, when many left the mother church and began to congregate in fields, houses and barns. The General Synod called upon the King to suppress these religious assemblies and William sent his soldiers to oppose free worship. Many preachers were thrown into jail and others were manhandled. Persecution and arrest gradually disappeared, but the dissenters were socially ostracized. Doors of relatives and former friends were closed to them, laborers lost their jobs and merchants were boycotted.

It was this situation which paved the way for the Dutch colonists in 1847. The Netherlands was then also experiencing poverty and hunger among the middle and poorer classes and the Separatists were composed almost entirely of these groups. On October 2, 1846 Rev. Van Raalte and his followers numbering forty-seven arrived at the port of New York after a stormy sea voyage of forty-seven days. They proceeded by steamer to Albany and then by way of Buffalo and Cleveland to Detroit. It was their plan to settle in Iowa or Wisconsin, but the winter was so far advanced that it was decided to remain in Detroit. Many of the men obtained employment in the St. Clair ship yards. The party was cordially welcomed in Detroit by such men as General Lewis Cass, Theodore Romeyn, Rev. George Duffield, and C. C. Trowbridge.

It was largely through the influence of Detroiters that the party was prevailed upon to remain in Michigan. They considered both the Saginaw Valley and Western Michigan as a place of settlement but finally decided upon the latter as the most suitable place to build their new homes.

It was on February 12, 1847 when Van Raalte and his party reached the head of Black Lake and established the City of Holland. Arriving in the midst of winter they built cabins for shelter. Allegan was the nearest source of supply when the community was started. With the building of their cabins and a log church the colony immediately laid the foundations for common schools and for Hope College. The first crops raised at Holland helped pay the expenses of students and professors.

Holland became the center of the Netherlands influx but the immigration soon spread over a wide area. Other leaders brought colonists to other communities. At the start Holland did not offer industrial employment sufficient for those not working on farms. Hence many moved to the surrounding cities.

As soon as news of the safe arrival of the Van Raalte party reached the Netherlands a general immigration continued from 1847 to 1849. The greater portion of these immigrants joined Van Raalte at Holland.

In the spring of 1847 Van Raalte was joined by James Vande Luyster, the Rev. Cornelius Vander Meulen, and Jan Steketee. Each had been in charge of a shipload of immigrants and they too had originally intended to go further west. They changed their destination to Western Michigan, however, and located at Zeeland.

Then came the Rev. Marten A. Ypma and his followers who located at Vriesland. In 1848 the Rev. Seine Bolks and his colony settled in Overisel township, Allegan County.

The Rev. Van Raalte proved to be a powerful figure in molding the destiny of Holland and Western Michigan. He was small of stature but had a massive head, an athletic step and a rugged frame. He had deep, keen, grey eyes. His bearing tended toward the military rather than the clerical. He had been educated at Leyden and during his successful career of leadership he established himself as an able statesman, prophet, priest, and orator.

It was from these groups headed by Van Raalte, Rev. Ypma, Van de Luyster, Steketee and others, that Kalamazoo received its first group of Hollanders. Many who originally had gone to Holland, Zeeland, Vriesland, and other towns in the Black Lake area were unable to find employment and drifted into this section. It was this small group who, because of their inability to understand and speak the English language, founded the first Holland Church in our city.

The first complete group of Holland immigrants to settle in Kalamazoo was composed of twenty-seven headed by Paulus Den Bleyker, who arrived here in August, 1850. This group intended to settle farther west but was forced to stop here temporarily because of considerable illness. It was during this period of illness that Den Bleyker and other leaders of the group decided to make this their permanent home.

Although Paulus Den Bleyker had little personal interest in religious work, his influence over his group was favorable to the church. A great majority of these people became members of the Dutch Reformed Church later to be known as the First Reformed Church.

After the year 1850 the influx of Hollanders into this city was rapid. The church membership grew as the number of immigrants increased and it soon became one of the well established churches of the community.

Church History

"I love Thy church, O Lord,
Her walls before Thee stand,
Dear as the apple of Thine eye,
And graven on Thy hand.

"Beyond my highest joy
I prize her heavenly ways,
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,
Her hymns of love and praise."

How joyfully we can sing this song when we think of the great things that God has wrought for us. How proud we should be when we realize that we today are part of an organization that has steadfastly carried on the work of our Lord for the past ninety years. Ninety years progressively spent in doing God's work; reaping the harvest from past sown seeds and planting the seeds for the future. As we briefly sketch the blessings which we as a church have received from above in years gone by, may we have a prayer on our lips that these blessings shall not diminish. The Apostle Paul says, "Let us walk by the same rule whereto we have already attained. Let us mind the same thing".

History reveals that the First Reformed Church of Kalamazoo was organized April twelfth, 1850; the first Holland church in the city. For two years the services were held on the second floor of various stores and business places. The membership grew so rapidly that moves were made periodically to accommodate the increasing number. Finally, on July 28, 1852, a small church building located on East South Street was purchased from the Congregational Church for seven hundred dollars.

The Rev. Wynand Gardenier was installed as the first pastor on April 23, 1854. Rev. Gardenier came to America from the Netherlands in 1853, having served as pastor of the Reformed Church at Wolphaartsdijk in the Province of Zeeland for the previous eleven years. He was installed by the Hon. Dr. Seine Bolks of Grand Haven, Michigan.

The first minutes of the Consistory are dated April 26, 1854. The members of the first consistory recorded were as follows: Pres. Rev. W. Gardenier, J. A. Peyster, A. Geerling, H. Lankheet, and A. Kools.

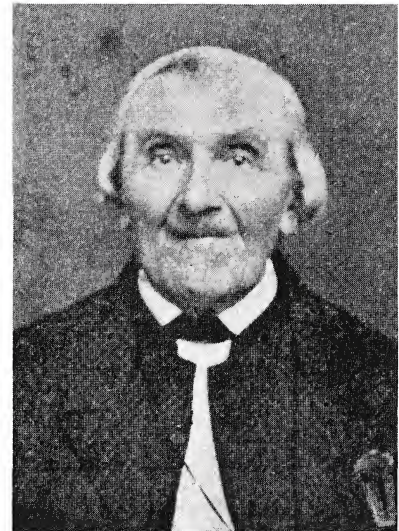
This small, energetic group did not have to wait long to experience the hand of God, for on March 13, 1856 the Rev. Gardenier passed away at the age of thirty-six years.

In passing, it might be of interest to mention that in 1909 Cornelius Gardenier, the only living child, placed a black marble tablet over the pulpit of our church in memory of his father. This tablet says, "To the memory of Dominie Wynand Gardenier, first pastor of this congregation, age 36, who died at Kalamazoo, Mich., March 13, 1856, and his wife, Berendrina Visser, who died at Wolphaartsdijk Oct. 15, 1851".

The consistorial records say that during Rev. Gardenier's short ministry many were brought to the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Though grateful to God for his ministry which had been a blessing to young and old, Rev. Gardenier's passing was deeply felt by his beloved congregation.



REV. WYNAND GARDENIER



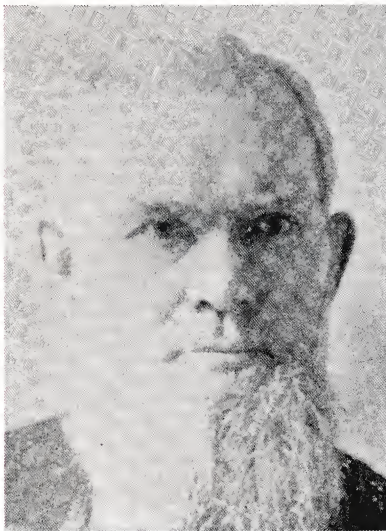
REV. H. G. KLYN



REV. JACOB VANDER MEULEN



REV. ADRIAN KRIEKAARD



REV. JOHN WM. TE WINKEL



REV. NICHOLAS H. DOSKER

It is reasonable to assume that catechetical work began when the church was founded. Although nothing is stated in the records about its beginning, there is mention made concerning its continuance by elders after the death of Rev. Gardenier. The importance of catechetical training has constantly been stressed throughout the ninety years of our church's history. We believe today as our forefathers did years ago that this training is of great importance as a foundation for Christian living.

It is of interest to note that although the congregation was without a pastor, progress continued. On October 14, 1857 the Sunday School was organized. The first Sunday School teachers were: P. Hoedemaker, Mrs. I. Hoedemaker, I. Hoedemaker, J. Van Kersen, Mrs. F. Lucasse, Mrs. E. P. Beeker, E. P. Beeker, J. Kools, T. Van Huizen, M. Lamper, H. Foren, Mrs. J. Aling, Miss A. Grootemaat, Miss L. VandenBerg, Miss J. Lucasse, Miss J. Strik, Miss F. Gropschat.

The Rev. H. G. Klyn was installed as the second pastor during November, 1857. The records tell us that during the years 1857 and 1858 a great revival was experienced in all the Kalamazoo churches. In our church prayer meetings were held every evening, week after week. Testimonies were given by those who had found Christ, prayers were offered, Psalms were sung and many souls were won for the kingdom.

The Rev. Klyn resigned August 21, 1862, and our church was without a pastor for the following two years.

In August, 1864 the Rev. Jacob Vander Meulen was installed as the new pastor. During his ministry the present location of our church was purchased from the Methodist congregation for four thousand dollars. The small frame building located on this site immediately became the new meeting place. In February, 1868 the Rev. Vander Meulen, whose short term as minister was very successful, accepted a call to Holland, Mich.

No time was wasted in obtaining a successor to Rev. Vander Meulen, for on March 25, 1868 the Rev. Adrian Kriekaard was installed. The church building was soon unable to hold the increasing number of worshippers so it was decided to build a new one. The old church was moved to one side and continued to be used until the new one was completed. The cost was twelve hundred dollars.

The thriftiness of our forefathers must not be overlooked. The old church building was not torn down, but was sold as a unit and moved to the corner of Eleanor and North Burdick Streets. It was used for many years as a wagon shop.

Rev. Kriekaard's ministry was very fruitful. A great revival was experienced and many were added to the church. Rev. Kriekaard accepted a call to Grand Rapids in 1876.

Again we see that there was little difficulty in getting a new pastor. The Rev. John Wm. Te Winkel accepted the call and was installed in July, 1876.

A parsonage was purchased from Dr. E. H. Van Deusen located on West South Street between Rose and Burdick Streets for the sum of four hundred twenty-five dollars. Rev. Te Winkel served the church six years and then accepted a call to East Williams, N. Y. in July, 1882.

The Rev. Nicholas H. Dosker was installed as the new minister November 26, 1883. Great spiritual blessings were ours; the congregation grew rapidly. As many as forty young people accepted Christ at one time.

The Women's Missionary Society was organized July 1, 1884. Meetings were held the first Thursday of every month. Monthly dues of twenty-five cents were collected, — the amount to be divided between foreign and domestic missions.

After three and one-half years of loving service and ministry that was so dear to him, Rev. Dosker passed away, following a brief illness.

It should be stated in passing that the language question was becoming very acute. Many young people were interested in an English speaking church. It was then decided to organize another Reformed Church in order to keep these young people within our denomination. A committee of five was appointed, namely: John Ensing, P. Vander Meide, J. Vander Meide, J. Pyle and S. Wykkel, to learn how many wished to transfer to this new church, The Second Reformed Church. On June 30, 1885 this new church was organized and was composed of ten families and seventeen members.

The first organ in our church was purchased on August 1, 1887 for seventeen hundred twenty-five dollars and was placed in the northeast corner of the church.

The Rev. Matthew Kolyn was then called and he accepted, being installed July 8, 1888. During his five year stay several important events occurred. The Third Reformed Church was organized for those living in the northern part of our city. In 1892 the organ loft was built and the organ moved, the church redecorated and the exterior painted, at a total cost of twelve hundred ninety dollars. But more important than these events was the organization of the Christian Endeavor Society. It immediately attracted the interest of the young people. Every Sunday evening the chapel was so filled that chairs had to be placed along the walls of the room and in the aisles. Now as then, the spirit of God is at these meetings and many folks can testify to the manifold blessings received from them.

What a great inspiration Rev. Kolyn was to our church. He came here as a young man, immediately gained the respect of the older people and the love of the younger. His spiritual leadership brought many souls to Christ. Deep disappointment was felt when he accepted a call to Orange City, Iowa in 1893.

The Rev. Evert Wm. Stapelkamp became our next pastor in the year 1894. Little is recorded concerning his ministry here. The fact is related that peace and harmony prevailed and that the attendance at all services was gratifying. Rev. Stapelkamp also accepted a call to Orange City, Iowa.

In the spring of 1902 the Rev. William Pool accepted the call offered him by our congregation. Shortly after his arrival the old parsonage located on West South Street was sold for six thousand five hundred dollars. The present one was purchased a month later from Mrs. H. Prentice.

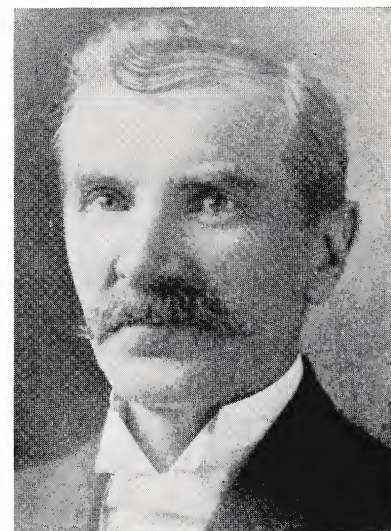
In May, 1904 a joint committee appointed by both the First and Second Reformed Churches organized a Sunday School on South Burdick Street. Later this developed into what is now the Bethany Reformed Church.



REV. MATTHEW KOLYN



REV. EVERT WM. STAPELKAMP



REV. WILLIAM POOL



REV. JOHN STEUNENBERG



REV. JAMES J. HOLLEBRANDS



In 1905 the language question again became an issue. It was decided that the evening service was to be entirely English.

In 1910 the church was remodeled. New windows and brick veneer cost the congregation eight thousand dollars. This was the culmination of ten years of patient planning.

The Rev. Pool accepted a call to Paterson, N. J. in June, 1911 after having served the church faithfully.

There was difficulty in finding a successor; nine calls were tendered namely: Rev. H. Harmeling (2), Rev. S. Van de Werf (2), Rev. G. Hekhuis, Rev. A. W. De Jong, Rev. D. Drukker, Rev. H. Vander Waald, and Rev. John Steunenberg.

The Rev. Steunenberg accepted and was installed on October 30, 1912. Beginning January 1, 1914 pew rentals were discontinued. This made free seats available throughout the church. The young people canvassed the church and collected two hundred forty-seven dollars with which to purchase a motor for the organ. In 1915 the church was wired and electric lights installed. The basement was excavated and finished for use by the Sunday School and societies. All the work was done by voluntary congregational help.

During the summer of 1917 a banquet and celebration was held. The church debt had been removed and the mortgage was burned.

At this time the first envelope system was inaugurated. In these envelopes weekly pledges were collected from the members to pay the pastor's salary.

Rev. Steunenberg accepted a call to Overisel, Mich. in 1918. His pastorate lasted five and one-half years. It was a period of faithful service and blessed ministry.

The One Day Income for Missions was taken for the first time in March, 1918.

In June, 1918 the Rev. James J. Hollebrands arrived as our new pastor. An opportune period for several new developments seemed to have arrived.

In January, 1919 the budget system was adopted, giving us a definite basis by which we could collect funds for church expenses and also for Missions.

In August of the same year the present church was repaired. A steel ceiling was erected, a new furnace was installed, the church was redecorated inside and out, and a new chimney was built. These alterations together with the painting of the parsonage and installation of a new furnace there, cost the church five thousand seven hundred dollars.

A petition for individual communion cups was signed by one hundred twenty-eight members and was brought to the consistory in February, 1924. Due to the number of signatures it was deemed advisable to adopt this change at once.

In March, 1925 new pews were installed throughout the church.

The need for more English preaching was again demanding the attention of the congregation. Consequently on January 1, 1927 the morning service was conducted in the English language. The afternoon service was continued in the Holland language.

The Rev. Hollebrands left our church October 5, 1927 to accept a call to Detroit. He had served the congregation faithfully for over nine years. The Rev. Abraham De Young was installed in June, 1928 as the twelfth pastor of our church.

Our Pastor



REV. ABRAHAM DE YOUNG, D.D.

In the spring of 1929 the church was reshingled and redecorated. The cost of this work was approximately three thousand dollars.

Choir robes were purchased in December, 1929.

A new Kilgen organ was purchased and installed during the winter of 1932 for six thousand two hundred fifty dollars. At the same time two new additions, on the northeast and northwest corners of the church were completed.

The rotary system for the election of elders and deacons went into effect in 1938.

During the summer of 1939 considerable remodeling was done to the parsonage.

It is a coincidence and pleasure to report on our ninetieth anniversary that our church is now entirely free from debt.

We are very grateful for the regular contributions and special gifts, as well as the generous anniversary gift received from one of our church members which has made this report possible.

The Rev. A. De Young has now been our pastor for over twelve years. During these years of service the Lord has greatly blessed his labors. The present records show a membership of two hundred thirty-five families and four hundred ninety communicant members. His religious convictions, apparent in his life as well as in his teaching, have been beyond reproach. Spiritual results have been repeatedly in evidence. The relationship has been one of harmony and we trust that God's blessing may rest upon his future stay with us.

Thus we bring to a close this somewhat circumscribed view of what God can accomplish through human agencies during ninety years. There were times when the way seemed dark, when difficulties and discouragements seemed insurmountable, but in spite of it all, through God's Grace, we are compelled to note that progress has been steady and sure. May we, at this ninetieth milestone pause and consecrate ourselves anew to the task which lies before us.

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the word:

From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH

Faith of our fathers! Strong and true,
In spite of storms and unknown sea;
They ventured forth to foreign shores
To worship God in liberty!

Faith of our fathers! — Strong faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Our fathers, faced with hardships great,
Feared not the future's untried way:
They trusted God for strength and care,
And walked with Him from day to day.

Faith of our fathers! — Great faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

Faith of our fathers! Wondrous wise,
Gave to their children, heritage rare;
Knowledge of God and training in Truth,
Riches of grace beyond compare!

Faith of our fathers! — Wise faith!
We will be true to thee till death!

God of our fathers! We too would be,
Strong in faith, and love for Thee;
Meeting the challenge of our age,
With courage strong and loyalty.

God of our fathers! With holy faith,
We will be true to Thee till death!



CHURCH BEFORE REMODELING IN 1910

GREATER CONSISTORY



Reading top, left to right—Rene Bowers, John Weenink, Casper Smith, Harry Drenten, Charles Wiessner, Edward Ossewaarde, Peter Gideon, Peter Heidanus, Garrett Bos, Isaac DeMoor.

John Zeedyk, Harry VandePolder, John Verburg, John Eichhorn, Paul Schrier, Cornelius Vermeulen, Peter J. Weenink, Rev. A. De Young, Nicholas Vanden Berge, Henry Kreling, Anton Meulenberg, Thomas Schippers.

Benjamin Ter Beck, Harold Van Loo, William Van Dis, Herbert Erink, Dato Tazelaar, Charles Beare.

We wish to pay a special tribute to all the individuals whose services have been indispensable to the consistory, who have been instrumental in the life and growth of the church.

Special thanks to our honorary members, Cornelius Vermeulen, Paul Schrier and Peter J. Weenink.

The history of the past speaks loudly of God's favor and divine guidance. Many names of servants of our Lord who have served in our church may have been forgotten here below, but are emblazoned in the record of eternity beyond.

CONSISTORY



Reading top, left to right—Herbert Brink, Harold VanLoo, Treas., Edward Ossewaarde, William Van Dis, Neil Schrier, Peter Heidanus, Garrett Bos, Benevolent Treas., Benjamin Ter Beck.

Charles Beare, Casper Smith, Anton Meulenberg, Dato Tazelaar, Vice-Pres., Rev. A. De Young, Pres., Nicholas VandenBerge, Secy., Thomas Schippers, Henry Kreling, Rene Bowers.

Our Consistory is composed of sixteen members, eight elders and eight deacons, and our pastor who serves as president. We meet the first Monday of every month. A feeling of co-operation, harmony and good fellowship prevails among us.

Some of the members have served continuously for ten, twelve and fifteen years. We feel that serving in the consistory has brought us closer to our Master and enriched our lives spiritually.

We hope and pray that our Heavenly Father will continue to bless us in this portion of His work.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND OFFICERS



Reading top, left to right—Mrs. H. Weenink, Mrs. H. Kreling, Mrs. L. Gideon, Mrs. A. De Young, Mrs. K. Van Zee, Mrs. C. Beare, Charles Beare, Mrs. H. Van Loo, Dato Tazelaar, Allan Weenink, Arthur Sterenberg, Mrs. A. Sterenberg, Maurice De Witte, Mrs. L. Wiessner, Donald Pilaar.

Cora Preston, Mrs. D. Tazelaar, Matthew Kakabeke, Libr., Edison Marsh, Secy., Henry Weenink, Supt., Alice Sterenberg, Primary Supt., Rev. A. De Young, Mrs. R. Bowers, Mrs. G. Frenthway, Garrett Frenthway, Asst. Supt., Herbert Brink, Treas., Garrett Doorlag, Asst. Treas.

Nelson Cleveland, John Weenink, Joan Gideon, Elizabeth Dalm, June DeWitte, Frances Wiessner, Virginia Heidanus, Virginia Luikens, Ruth VandePolder, Elsie VandePolder, John Zeedyk, Nicholas VandenBerge.

Our Sunday School was organized on October 14, 1857. The first superintendent was Mr. P. J. Hoedemaker. There were twenty-two officers and teachers, twelve men and ten women. Included in the old report was mention of a record attendance on March 10, 1890 of four hundred. This number almost equals any recent large attendance, the highest being four hundred and nineteen.

More recently, in our time, the Sunday School has enjoyed a marked success. It has maintained an enviable record of attendance and activity. Many of our teachers and officers have been faithful throughout the years; among them Mrs. Henry Kreling, who has been a Sunday School teacher for fifty years. Our most recent annual report, that of 1939, is as follows:

ENROLLMENT	
Officers	10
Teachers	33
School Enrollment	376
Cradle Roll	13
Home Dept.	<u>10</u>
Total	442

ATTENDANCE	
Largest in 1939	419
Smallest	242
Average	333

This represents an average increase for 1939 of 41 members.

An active part is taken in Mission Work with more than half the financial receipts being used for this work. Our school contributes to the Tiny Tim Crib Side of Bronson Hospital as well as to the County and State Sunday School Missions.

Partial payment of delegates' cost to Westminster Lodge, a Christian Training Camp for youth of our school, is advanced each year. This year fourteen students from our Sunday School attended.

Our school not only is maintaining its stand but continues to succeed and grow in numbers regardless of all the detractors of the present times. Of this we are justly proud.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT



Reading top, left to right—Teachers, Mrs. John Weenink, Mrs. Henry Weenink, Miss Ruth VandePolder, Mrs. Rene Bowers, Secy., Miss Tressa Adams, Miss Joan Gideon, Miss Elsie VandePolder, Mrs. Arthur Sterenberg.

Scholars—Thomas Frenthway, William Soe'ers, Donald DeMoor, Richard VanderMolen, Richard Zeedyk, Jack Grubemeyer, Lois Heidanus, He'en Zeedyk, Donna Legerstee, Barbara Mader, Doris Mulder, William Brush.

Jack Peterman, Eugene Toornman, Charles VanAvery, Erwin Koets, Ruth Longabaugh, Alice Sterenberg, Supt., Barbara Fitzgerald, Joan Weenink, Phyllis Lemmer, Carol Plantefaber, Phyllis Van Weelden, Mary Lou Mader, John Bowers.

John Gideon, Janet Gideon, Donald Fitzgerald, Helen VanLoo, He'en Stuut, Nancy VanLaar, Mary Ann Keyser, David Stuut, Frederick Leaske, Cc.s.ance Leaske, Gerald Marsh, Richard Fitzgerald.

Phyllis Heidanus, Joan Wiessner, Patricia Haverkamp, Beverly Van Avery, Billy VanLaar, Janet Grubemeyer, Sharon Wurfel, Jimmy VandePolder, Marilyn Kakabeke, Jimmy VanAvery, Suzanne Schipper, Marilyn Haverkamp, John Yonkers, Joyce DeMoor, Joyce Kral, James Toornman.

*"Except ye be converted, and become as little children,
ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."*

This group of children and teachers represents the Primary Department of our Sunday School. In these children lies the hope of the future church and it is for this reason that the Primary Department is considered to be an important part of our church organization. In this year of 1940 there are twelve teachers and three officers. The number of children attending averages between eighty and ninety scholars each Sunday. The children range between the ages from three to twelve years.



HOME DEPARTMENT—This department enrolls mothers of little children, old people and shut-ins unable to attend church services. Sunday School papers are distributed to them. The superintendent of this department visits these members and accepts their gifts.

CRADLE ROLL—Children born in families of the church make up the membership of the Cradle Roll Department of the Sunday School. These children remain in this department until they reach the age of three or until they become members of the Primary Department.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY



Reading top, left to right—Allan Weenink, Vice-Pres., Robert Lucking, Howard Van Dis, William Moerdyk, Maurice De Witte, Pres., Donald Vermeulen, Merrill Brink, Donald Mulder, William VanderSalm, Leonard Wiessner, Jr., Robert Van Dis, Kenneth Wiessner, Alexander Brush, Robert Polderman, Clifford Wiessner, Elsie VandePolder, Ruth VandePolder, Virginia Luikens, Barbara Tazelaar, Eunice Heidanus, Norma Lemmer, Ralph Smith, Henrietta Smith, Miriam Weenink, June DeWitte, Mary Smith, Virginia Heidanus, Irene Gideon.

In the year 1888, eleven young people met at the parsonage interested in organizing a Christian Endeavor Society in our church. They encountered a great deal of opposition from the older church leaders who still believed that young people were to be seen and not heard. Rev. M. Kolyn offset the opposition offered by the older people by explaining to them that it would be a wheel within a wheel, an organization of the church working for the church. This was the first Christian Endeavor Society in Kalamazoo.

The constitution adopted at one of the early meetings is still in force today, not one change ever having been made. The official name as fixed by this document is "First Reformed Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor". Its object, now as then, is to promote an earnest Christian life among its members, to increase their mutual acquaintance and to make them more useful in the service of God.

The first officers of the society were:

President—Rev. Matthew Kolyn
Vice-President—Klaas Groetsema

Recording Secretary—Cornelius Abrams
Corresponding Secretary—Nellie Toonder

The First Reformed Church realizes that much of its success in the past has been due to Christian Endeavor. It is the school for young Christians, the training ground for future Christian leaders.

The society numbers thirty-six members at the present time.

JUNIOR CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY



Reading top, left to right—Norma Legerstee, Marilyn Van Weelden, Phyllis Weenink, Marjorie Lucking, Vice-Pres., Lois Rameau, Mary Esther Van Loo, Pres.
Helen Zeedyk, Lois Heidanus, Robert Tazelaar, Richard Zeedyk, John Bowers, Richard Wiessner, Dorothy Preston, Adviser, June De Witte, Asst. Adviser.
Miriam Weenink, Pianist, Joan Weenink, Joan Mulder, Doris Mulder, Donna Legerstee, Gordon DeWitte, Secy.-Treas., Donald De Moor, William Brush.
Joyce DeMoor, Janet Gideon, John Gideon, Helen VanLoo, Phyllis Lemmer, Joan Wiessner, Barbara Tazelaar, Pianist.

The present Junior Christian Endeavor Society was organized in May, 1940 with the purpose of training children in Christian living and Christian service. Knowing that the boys and girls of today will be the church members of tomorrow, Junior Christian Endeavor attempts to help children to express their Christian life and develop them into efficient workers.

Officers and committees are appointed to carry on the work of the society under the leadership of advisers.



PRAYER MEETING—As a church we most heartily believe in prayer. We cannot hope to succeed without the help of our Heavenly Father. Therefore, that many souls may be won and all things done to His glory, we have always emphasized the avenue of prayer. Prayer meeting is regularly held on Thursday evening.

CATECHISM CLASSES—A strong Christian character and a strong Christian church rests upon the basis of early training in Bible truth and the doctrines of faith. Therefore much is made of catechetical work. At present there are one hundred forty pupils in seven different classes.

SENIOR WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY



Reading top, left to right—Mrs. A. Tazelaar, Mrs. H. Kreling, Vice Pres., Mrs. A. De Young, Pres., Mrs. M. Bush, Mrs. H. Vande Polder, Mrs. Mary Elsmann, Mrs. I. Vander Bliek, Mrs. P. Schrier, Secy., Mrs. J. Links, Mrs. A. Heidanus, Mrs. D. Ritzema, Mrs. L. Gideon, Treas.

Mrs. I. Gilman, Mrs. M. Van Haaften, Mrs. J. Van Wamelen, Mrs. C. Vermeulen, Mrs. A. DeMoor, Mrs. H. Tazelaar.
Mrs. A. Houloose, Mrs. J. Koets, Mrs. A. Dalm, Mrs. Mary De Smit, Mrs. H. Oudkerk, Miss Jennie Van Brussel.

The Senior Women's Missionary Society was organized on July 1, 1884 by Rev. N. H. Dosker. The first officers of this society were: President, Mrs. N. H. Dosker; Vice-President, Anna J. Hoodemaker; Secretary, Mrs. A. Pyle; and Treasurer, Mrs. Wm. De Visser. Each meeting is opened with prayer, the reading of a portion of God's Word and the singing of a Psalm. Then, either a speaker is invited to tell about some phase of missionary work or a member is asked to prepare a reading on some missionary topic.

Monthly dues of twenty-five cents are collected which are divided between foreign and domestic missions. Since 1932 thirty-five dollars has been contributed each year to the work among the Jews, and since 1927 a special offering has been taken for the lepers. In recent years this has been given to the leper work of Dr. Wm. Moerdyk in Iraq.

In 1930 it was decided to raise the monthly dues to thirty-five cents, the extra ten cents to be applied to the society's share for the support of a matron in the Annville Institute, a Kentucky Missionary School.

In February of each year a meeting, known as a "Mite Box Meeting", is held, when the contents of mite-boxes are brought in by the members and other women in the church who are not active members. This has kept up the annual receipts in spite of the loss of many of the older members. At this meeting a social hour follows the regular program.

Because so many of the older members have gone to their Eternal Home this society has a membership of only thirty-two and a regular attendance of between fifteen and twenty, but many who are unable to attend the meetings are faithful in their giving and above all, in their "Intercessory Prayer."

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY



Reading top, left to right—Mrs. C. Lemmer, Mrs. J. Meulman, Mrs. T. Luikens, Mrs. G. Lucking, Mrs. G. Frenthway, Mrs. A. Meyrer, Mrs. F. Niessink, Mrs. J. Schaal, Mrs. E. Monteith, Mrs. B. Ter Beck, Mrs. C. Wiessner, Mrs. J. Westveer. Mrs. P. VanderSalm, Mrs. D. VanLaar, Mrs. T. Schippers, Mrs. A. Meulenbergh, Mrs. P. DeWitte, Mrs. G. Thayer, Mrs. P. Harrison, Mrs. O. Heath, Mrs. T. Kakabeke, Mrs. P. Heidanus, Mrs. I. DeMoer, Mrs. G. VanEck, Mrs. H. Peterman. Mrs. M. Soeters, Mrs. E. Marsh, Mrs. J. Heidanus, Carrie VanHaften, Treas., Mrs. C. Koets, Mrs. J. Mulder, Vice-Pres., Mrs. H. VanLoo, Pres., Mrs. A. DeYoung, Mrs. K. VanZee, Mrs. G. Bos, Elizabeth Dalm, Nellie De Leeuw. Mrs. G. Van Maanen, Mrs. M. Hoebeke, Mrs. J. Beimer, Mrs. D. Tazelaar, Mrs. N. VandenBerge, Mrs. Wm. Van Dis, Mrs. J. VanderSalm, Mrs. H. Weenink, Cora Preston, Nellie Polderman, Mrs. C. Smith.

The Women's Missionary Society has the honor of being the first missionary organization in our church. It was organized in 1872 as the Young Women's Missionary Society and from that year until the present it has worked diligently for the cause of missions.

The first officers were: Mrs. Kate Oudkerk Pyle, Mrs. Kate De Visser Van Brook, Mrs. Lizzie Kriekaard Krueger.

Meetings are held once a month and in addition to the devotional service, interesting programs and studies about the world's need and the missionary work being done to answer that need are presented. Monthly dues and receipts derived from other sources are used in support of missionary work at home and abroad. The present membership numbers seventy-seven.

On June 3, 1925 the society was divided into five groups called circles, to create more interest for missions and for fellowship among its members. Mrs. Garrett Bos, Mrs. Rene Bowers, Mrs. John Beimer, Mrs. John Eichhorn and Miss Lena Korstange were the first circle chairmen. Each circle became responsible for financial aid and is today helping to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ, not only in America but in several countries across the sea.

The circles today alternate in leading devotionals at the monthly missionary meetings and supply programs for the different meetings. Each circle member is expected to call on the sick and shut-ins of the church.

The circles also meet once a month and add much to the making of helpful friendships in the church and of rich Christian fellowship.

YOUNG WOMEN'S GUILD



Reading top, left to right—Mrs. H. Gideon, Ada Vermeulen, Dorothy Preston, Mrs. C. Schrier, Trina Ter Burgh, Mrs. J. Krall, Mrs. R. Wurfel, Mrs. G. Haan, Mrs. N. Cleveland, Mrs. G. Leaske, Henrietta Flipse, Ruth Gilman, Mrs. G. Van Haaften, Mrs. H. Boekhout, Mrs. N. Stuut, Mrs. G. Geerligs, Mrs. H. Matson, Mrs. S. Schipper, Mrs. H. VandePolder, Frances Wiessner, Mrs. K. Hein, Nina Bennett, Elsie VandePolder, Mrs. R. TerBeek, Bess Sterenberg, Mrs. A. Sterenberg, Treas., Alice Sterenberg, Vice-Pres., Mrs. A. De Young, Mrs. N. Schrier, Pres., Mrs. E. Stapert, Secy., Mrs. L. VanLiere, Mrs. F. Wiessner.

The Young Women's Guild is an outgrowth of the Senior Helping Hands which was under the direction of Mrs. M. Mulder. In 1932 the name of the organization was changed to the Young Women's Guild. The number of active members at that time was thirteen and the annual financial report showed receipts of approximately \$100.

The organization is now made up of married and unmarried young women of the church and numbers thirty-four active members, with the average annual receipts \$250.

The object of the organization is to present the various phases of missions to the girls. The cash receipts are given mainly to missions, with a small percentage being used for local work, such as church improvements. The organization meets once a month and monthly dues are collected.

MUBESHERAAT SOCIETY



Reading top, left to right—Miriam Weenink, Irene Gideon, Barbara Tazelaar, Secy. Eunice Heidanus, Treas., June Vroegindewey, Virginia Heidanus, Pres., Norma Lemmer, Ruth VandePolder, Donna Fowle, Vice-Pres. Betty Ossewaarde, Norene Kloosterman, Mrs. A. De Young, Adviser, Virginia Luikens. Eleanor Brush, Doris Marsh, Henrietta Smith, Martha Mahieu.

The Mubesheraat Society had its beginning in 1928 when the Philathea and Moonbeam Girls' Societies combined. "Mubesheraat," the name which the girls adopted, is an Arabian word meaning lady missionary.

The membership has grown until the society has at present twenty-five active members. The members are between the ages of thirteen and twenty-one. The girls meet once each month at the parsonage. Meetings are opened with a devotional period, which is followed by a short business session. Then the girls study work done in the various Reformed mission fields. Interesting reports are given and slides as well as pictures are often shown. The meetings are closed with a social period.

The aim of the society is to further the cause of missions through its gifts and prayers and to promote good will and common interest among the girls of the church.

LOYAL CIRCLE



Reading top, left to right—Mrs. C. Yonker, Dana Beck, Mrs. C. Van Haaften, Mrs. A. Ouding, Tina Noordhoek. Mrs. N. Keyser, Secy., Mrs. A. Wolcott, Treas., Josephine Beck, Pres., Mrs. J. Knapper, Vice-Pres., Mrs. A. Abraham, Mrs. M. Van Haaften.

The Loyal Circle was formed from a group of little girls who entered the primary department in 1909. The purpose of its organization was the support of an Indian boy in one of the Reformed Missions. Girls from other classes soon joined the group. It was decided to organize, the name selected being Helping Hands.

The first officers were: President, Mrs. H. Oudkerk; Vice-President, Mrs. P. C. Servaas; Treasurer, Rubena Gilman; Secretary, Anna Weenink.

In three years the membership had grown from twenty to fifty-three. By 1918 the society had become so large that many members left and joined the Young Women's Missionary Society. At this time the name was changed to Loyal Circle, which now has fifteen members.

Money is raised by various methods and dues. All proceeds are given to foreign and domestic missions and to various worthy local charities.

LADIES AID SOCIETY



Reading top, left to right—Lena Korstange, Secy., Mrs. A. Ter Burgh, Mrs. I. Vander Blik, Treas., Mrs. J. Mulder, Mrs. J. Links, Mrs. R. Bowers, Mrs. M. Bush, Pres., Mrs. J. Sootsman, Mrs. L. Gideon, Vice-Pres., Mrs. A. De Young, Mary DeLeeuw, Mrs. P. Schrier, Mrs. O. Heath, Mrs. G. Van Krieken, (Doris Mulder-Visitor), Mrs. H. Vande Polder, Mrs. I. Gilman, Mrs. M. Ver Schoor, Mrs. C. Vermeulen, Mrs. Mary Elsmann, Mrs. F. Skinner, Nellie Polderman, Mrs. J. Pilaar, Mrs. H. Sootsman, Mrs. A. Lamper, Mrs. H. Kreling.

The Ladies Aid Society was organized during the pastorate of the Rev. J. W. Te Winkel sometime between 1876 and 1882. The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. J. Rychel on South Rose Street. Mrs. Rychel was chosen president. The society was then known as the Dorcas Society. Meetings were held the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the homes of the various members and were conducted entirely in the Holland language.

During Rev. Steunenberg's pastorate the church basement was excavated and meeting rooms were built. The meetings then were held in the church basement. At this time it was also decided to change the name to the Ladies Aid Society.

At present there are thirty-four active, forty associate and five honorary members.

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD



Reading top, left to right—Leonard Wiessner, John Krall, Garrett Van Krieken, Wm. Hiemstra, Casper Smith, Peter Gideon, Benjamin Veenhuis, Garrett Sootsma.
 George Lucking, Donald Pilaar, Isaac De Moor, Frederick Wiessner, John Mulder, Carl Wiessner, James Links, Ties Luikens, Harry VandePolder, Harry Drenten, Anton Meulenberg, Sander Schippers, Henry Kreling.
 Edward Ossewaarde, Harold Van Loo, Benjamin Ter Beck, John Zeedyk, Grant Leaske, Vice Pres., Nelson Cleveland, Pres., Ricardo Wurfel, Treas., Martin Pasman, Secy., Dato Tazelaar, John Eichhorn, Peter Heidanus, John Verburg.
 Peter Vermeulen, Paul Schr'er, John Weenink, Rene Bowers, Charles Wiessner, Garrett Fren:chway, Rev. A. De Young, Nicholas VandenBerge, William Van Dis, Garrett Bos, Herbert Brink.

The men of our church held a meeting October 18, 1926 to form a Brotherhood. Since that first meeting fourteen years ago the Men's Brotherhood has continued to be an active church organization. The meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month.

Each meeting is opened with a brief Bible study conducted by our pastor. Then an educational and instructive program is enjoyed, such as a lecture or a moving picture. The balance of the evening is social; a lunch is served and a real informal good time ensues.

At the present time there are eighty members.



JOHN W. WEENINK, Organist

The Music Department of our church, such an important one because of the place it takes in public worship, has been directed for thirty-five years by our organist, Mr. John Weenink.

From the temple service of Bible times and later from our forefathers in the Netherlands has come to us the rich heritage of the Psalms and of Psalm singing. The singing of this church has been led for fifty-one years by pipe organ music.

The first pipe organ, used for forty-four years, was a two manual tracker action and was pumped by hand until 1915 when an electric blower was installed. In 1933, the old organ becoming unfit for service, a new Kilgen organ was purchased and installed. It was dedicated in March of that year.



MRS. A. DE YOUNG
Choir Director

Mr. John Weenink has just completed his thirty-fifth year as our organist, having begun his service on the first Sunday in February, 1905. One and all speak of the inspiration and pleasure they receive from his music and especially from his wonderful interpretation of the hymns.

Under the efficient leadership of Mrs. A. De Young as choir director and with the capable assistance of Miss Sally Ter Beck as pianist, much has been done to make the music a great inspiration to our church services.



SALLY TER BECK
Pianist

CHURCH CHOIR



Reading top, left to right—Wilma De Young, Norma Lemmer, Marinus Van Liere, John Weenink, Wayne De Vall, Wayne Topp, Henry Ritsema, Neil Stuut, Harold Wiessner, Dale Lemmer, William Moerdyk, Arthur Sterenberg, Mrs. A. Sterenberg, Ruth Gilman, Mrs. J. Zeedyk, Mrs. P. Gideon, Irene Gideon, Ruth VandePolder, Henrietta Smith, Elsie VandePolder, Mrs. A. De Young, Miriam Weenink, Barbara Tazelaar, Joan Gideon, Mrs. R. Bowers, Mrs. G. Bos, Bess Sterenberg, Mrs. W. Van Laar, Virginia Heldanus, Martha Cleveland, Mrs. L. VanLiere, Mrs. R. Dryer.

Although choir music has for years been a source of inspiration to our services, it wasn't until the year 1928, in September, that a regular church choir was organized. This choir has been leading the congregational singing and furnishing special numbers for the regular services as well as holidays and for all other special occasions since then.

The purpose of the choir is to sing to the glory of God by bringing the gospel message in song and by preparing hearts for the message of the sermon.

The choir has also provided an opportunity for service for many of our young people.

JUNIOR CHOIR



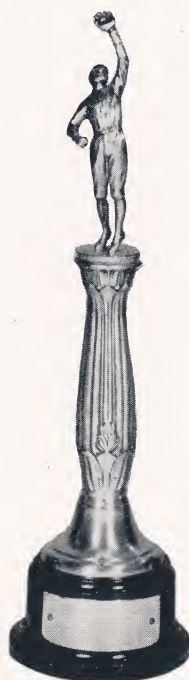
Reading top, left to right—Lois Heidanus, Norma Legerstee, Marilyn Van Weelden, Phyllis Weenink, Mary Van Loo, Lois Rameau, Marjorie Lucking, Helen Zeedyk, Barbara Fitzgerald.
Robert Topp, Charles Van Avery, Doris Mulder, Richard Zeedyk, Robert Tazelaar, William Brush, Robert Soeters, Helen Brink.
Donald Fitzgerald, Darrell Topp, Imogene Topp, Joan Mulder, Phyllis Lemmer, Joan Weenink, Donna Legerstee.

The Junior Choir, although still in its infancy, is a fine organization for the children to share their talents. The choir was organized in the fall of 1939 under the direction of Mr. Wayne Topp with Miss Barbara Tazelaar as pianist.

Later, because of his athletic activities, Mr. Topp was obliged to relinquish choir work. Miss Miriam Weenink then took charge..

At present the choir consists of about twenty members who meet every Thursday afternoon for practice. They take part in our Children's Day activities and furnish music for the church services at various times during the year.

TROPHIES



Our Church and Sunday School point with pride to these trophies, together with many others won by our various championship teams in league competition.



ATHLETICS AND RECREATION

Mind, Soul and Body could well be called the triangle of influence in the present Christian Church. It is a well known fact that the church has had the welfare of the mind and soul as its fundamental aim since its establishment. It has aimed to develop the mind along Christian channels by various means such as Sunday School, Chatechism, Societies, and the weekly sermons.

We all know that the main purpose of the Christian Church is the welfare of the human soul. "The welfare of the soul is precious," says the Psalmist. So the Christian Church has obeyed the command of the Lord and has gone into all the world to bring souls to Christ. The welfare of the human soul is, in fact, the force behind all church activity.

The third phase of church influence in this triangle is one which is rapidly becoming more and more important as a necessary church interest. In early church history, even until a very few years ago, the care and development of the body was sadly neglected. Although the body was known to be the temple of the Lord, the care of that temple was not considered as definitely church work.

The First Reformed Church has willingly sponsored athletic events for all young people who have been interested. In the spring the baseball team begins its annual season. Our church has had a team in the local Y.M.C.A. league for many years. We have also had junior baseball teams in years gone by. This team was composed of boys up to seventeen years of age.

Another sport which has been gaining in favor through the past few years is softball. We have sponsored a girls' and a young men's team for several years.

During the winter months basketball interests the youth and bowling the older men of the church. Each year the church sponsors three basketball teams, a junior team composed of boys up to twelve years of age, an intermediate for boys from twelve to seventeen and a senior team for young men from seventeen up. Two bowling teams are entered in the city church league each year.

It is impossible to speak of the church's interest in recreation and not mention the annual Sunday School picnic. This has always been a day to which the youth of the church have looked forward. The day is replete with all types of athletic events, swimming, games, races and finally a ball game completes a perfect day.

The churches of Kalamazoo owe a great deal to the Y.M.C.A. for the work it has done. This organization has worked faithfully with all the churches in our city, giving the boys and men the opportunity of competing in the various recreational activities under wholesome Christian leadership.

SENIOR BASEBALL TEAM



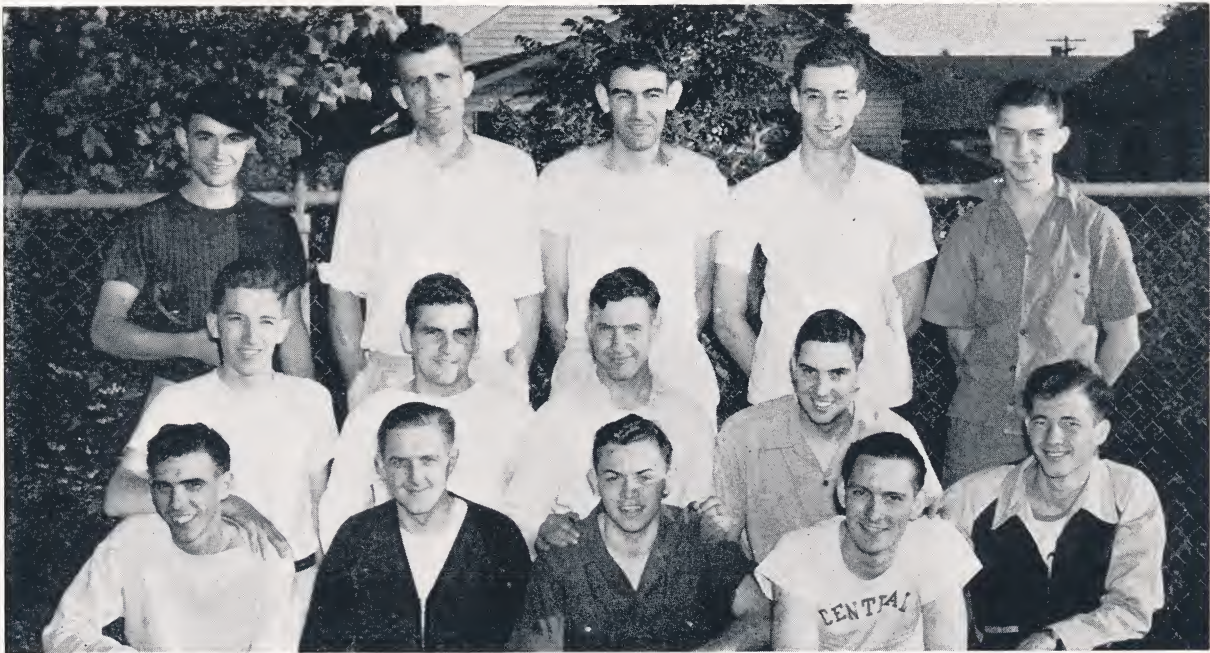
Reading top, left to right—Nelson Cleveland, Leonard J. Wiessner, Leonard Wiessner, Morris Bos, Alvin Hamilton, James Vander Molen.
Donald Mulder, Robert Polderman, Richard Vander Molen, Mascot, Wayne Topp, Dale Lemmer.

BOWLING TEAMS



Reading top, left to right—Neil Stuut, Garrett Bos, William Van Dis, Garrett Frenthway, Neil Schrier.
Howard Gideon, Frank Niessink, Leonard Wiessner, George Lucking, Jacob Vander Salm, Joseph Meulman.

MEN'S SOFT BALL TEAM



Reading top, left to right—Wayne De Vall, Neil Schrier, William VandenBrink, Robert Ter Beck, Robert Van Dis. Howard Van Dis, Garrett Van Maanen, Maurice De Witte, Arthur Sterenberg, Monteith Bilkert. Richard De Leeuw, Fred Wiessner, Donald Vermeulen, Allan Weenink.

GIRLS SOFT BALL TEAM



Reading top, left to right—Evelyn Cleveland, Evelyn Vander Molen, Herbert Brink, manager, Esther Vander Molen, Ruth VandePolder. Ruth Triestram, Lois Bezemer, Henrietta Smith, Virginia Heidanus, Miriam Weenink, Wilma De Young. June Vroegindewey, Betty Ossewaarde.

SENIOR BASKETBALL TEAM



Reading top, left to right—Maurice DeWitte, Morris Bos, Allan Weenink, Henry Vande Polder, manager. Harold Wiessner, Donald Mulder, Garrett Van Maanen, Monteith Bilkert.

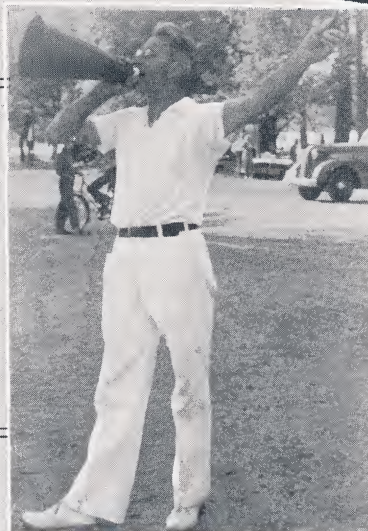
A GLIMPSE OF WESTMINSTER CAMP





MR. GARRETT VAN KRIEKEN
Busy at his task.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC MEMORIES





MR. AND MRS. PETER J. WEENINK

We are sure that much of the success and blessing of the past years, much of the progress and growth in Christian life and activity of First Church have been due to the faith, loyalty and sacrificial living of the pioneer families. These have all gone from us to join the church triumphant.

Living with us still, however, is a couple who joined the church almost fifty years ago, in 1893, and who have endeared themselves to us all by their consecrated lives, cheerful and faithful witness and uplifting influence, Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. Weenink.

Mr. Weenink served in the consistory for twenty-six years — fourteen years as deacon and twelve years as elder and for many years as the secretary of the consistory. On his retirement in 1926 he was named an honorary member.

Mrs. Weenink taught the Men's Sunday School Class for a period of seventeen years, was president of the Senior Women's Missionary Society for fifteen years, and has been a member of the Ladies Aid Society for forty-seven years.



THE PASTOR'S FAMILY

A Tribute to Dr. and Mrs. A. DeYoung

The Rev. and Mrs. A. De Young and their two children, Raymond, a senior at Hope College, and Wilma, as a young girl, came to us in June of 1928 from the Fifth Reformed Church of Grand Rapids.

Dr. and Mrs. De Young have faithfully labored among us since that time — twelve years of preaching, praying, leading God's people, calling sinners to repentance, baptizing our babies, teaching the youth about Jesus, uniting our young men and young women in marriage, sharing our joys and comforting us in the loss of our dear ones. During their work here our congregation has been richly blessed spiritually, our worship services well attended and we have a great interest in the furtherance of God's Kingdom in the mission fields.

Raymond De Young completed Hope College in June, 1929 and left us in August of that year to teach in the Reformed Church Mission School in Busrah, Arabia. After fifteen months of teaching Arabian boys about Christ and living among them both in work and play, he was taken ill and called Home by the Master December 31, 1930.

As Rev. and Mrs. De Young continue their labor among us, may God's richest blessing be upon them and when their days of toil are ended, may they see a rich harvest of souls and sing forever the praises of our Redeemer.

—By a Member of the Consistory.

Church Directory

COMMUNICANT MEMBERS

Adams, Tressa
Abraham, Mr. and Mrs. Audley

Baker, Bertha
Beare, Mr. and Mrs. Chas.
Beck, Josephine
Beck, Dana
Beekman, Mr. and Mrs. Adrian
Beekman, Neil
Beimer, Mr. and Mrs. John
Belden, Mrs. Lee
Bennett, Nina
Ballinger, Mrs. C.
Betke, Mrs. Jennie
Beye, Mr. and Mrs. Marinus
Bezemer, Mr. and Mrs. Paul
Bezemer, Eula
Bierema, Mr. and Mrs. John
Bierema, Carl
Bilkert, Monteith
Bilkert, Margaret
Bogema, Mrs. Catherine
Boodt, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel
Boodt, Henrietta
Bos, Mr. and Mrs. Garrett
Bos, Morris
Bowers, Mr. and Mrs. Rene
Boylan, Mrs. Lester
Brink, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert
Brink, Donna
Brink, Merrill
Brower, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Brush, Mrs. Irene
Brush, Eleanor
Brush, Alexander
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Hiram Edward Fish





Rose Kreitzer Fish

M R . & M R S .
H I R A M E D W A R D F I S H
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Hiram Edward Fish was born on Ransom street, Kalamazoo, Michigan, April 5, 1867, son of Hiram and Nancy Mevis Fish, the father of Scotch-Dutch and the mother of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry. The father was born in New York in 1826, became a carpenter and came to Kalamazoo, Michigan, as a young man and located on Kalamazoo avenue. Nancy Mevis was born in Akron, Ohio, in 1840, and later came with her parents to Michigan. They were married at Okemos, near Lansing, Michigan. They made their home in Kalamazoo after the Civil War broke out and he enlisted in the army and served three years. He died in Kalamazoo in December, 1869. Five years later Mrs. Nancy Fish was married to John Ash. Mr. and Mrs. Ash moved the family to Kansas, where they resided for two years and then returned to Kalamazoo. She died in 1928 and Mr. Ash in 1931. They were adherents of the First Methodist Church and beloved by its members, frequently being the recipients of beautiful roses from the garden of Mr. Charles Maxson.

Hiram Edward Fish, the subject of this writing,

had the following brothers and sisters: Ida, born July 24, 1857, died in 1937; Fannie, born June 7, 1859, married Mr. Burch and resides in Traverse City, Michigan; Frank, born July 14, 1861, died in 1896; and Sherman, born April 14, 1865, died in 1903.

Hiram Edward Fish, the subject of this writing, attended the old Frank Street School, working after school and Saturdays. While yet a small boy he was "on his own" and left school to become the companion of a blind man with a hand organ. After a few months he returned to Kalamazoo to work and attend school for a short time.

When Hiram Edward was seventeen, he went to Constantine, Michigan, to haul straw for a paper mill, working under Abraham Bellinger. Later he found employment on a farm near Constantine, for which he received seventeen dollars per month. While working there he met and married on October 30, 1886, Miss Rose Kreitzer, daughter of Christian and Eliza Kuch Kreitzer, both of German parentage. Rose was born April 12, 1869. Her father was born in Baden, Germany, her mother in Michigan and both are deceased at the time of this writing in 1942, the father dying in 1906 and the mother in 1918. All their married life they lived near Constantine.

Rose Kreitzer had two half sisters, Hannah and Mary Collingwood, and eight brothers and sisters: Belle, Lewis, Frank, Anna, George, Orrin, Jennie and Grace. Hannah, Mary and Belle are deceased. The others live in Constantine except Frank and Jennie, who married Mr. Shutts, who reside in Kalamazoo.

As a child Rose attended the rural school near Constantine known as "Tex Academy," no longer in use.

Mr. and Mrs. Fish began housekeeping on the John Hamilton farm near Parkville, Michigan, receiving fifteen dollars per month and "everything furnished," as was the custom. After two years they moved to Kalamazoo, living at 429 Frank street until 1912, when they moved to 829 North Park street, where Mrs. Fish continues to reside.

Mr. Fish worked first for the Michigan Buggy Company at \$1.25 per day, later for \$1.50 per day, staying with this company for ten years, after which he went with the Union Trim Company and remained with them in steady employment for more than forty years. Even after his retirement he was often called back to work for a few days. Loyalty to his employers and his work was his great passion.

He was a member of Masonic Lodge No. 22. For recreation he enjoyed driving, reading and table

games. He was reticent and retiring, greatly enjoying the home, which, with hard work and good management of his wife and himself, he had acquired and tastefully furnished.

Mr. Fish was a generous contributor to good projects, was loyal to his friends, and was a good honest neighbor and workman, never shirking his duty. In personal appearance he was about five feet five inches tall and weighed about 150 pounds, with dark hair and eyes. Even in his older age, friends commented on his fine appearance, young-looking and interested in life and doing worth while things.

Mrs. Fish is an interesting and entertaining conversationalist, alert, lively and optimistic in her outlook upon life.

Death came to Mr. Fish May 14, 1942. The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend Richard Barram, pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church and interment was in the family lot at Constantine.

Clara Izora Fisher



C L A R A I Z O R A F I S H E R

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Clara Izora Palmer was born in Otsego, Michigan, May 19, 1881, daughter of Martha Cottrell and Joseph Palmer, formerly residents of the state of New York. She had one sister, Cora, who died at the age of two years.

While Clara was yet an infant the family moved to Kalamazoo and she attended the Frank Street School, later named the Lincoln School.

At the age of fifteen, Clara lost her mother by death. The father married again and she found it necessary to rely upon her own resources.

May 27, 1899, Clara Izora Palmer married Edward D. Fisher. They first lived in Jasper street. He enlisted for the Spanish War April 26, 1898, and was mustered out November 2, 1898. They were the parents of two daughters: Lois, born January 8, 1900, married Mr. Fuhrman, died December 14, 1920; Dorothy Ellen, married Otis Ingraham, resides at 1312 March street, Kalamazoo, Michigan. Lois was the mother of Louise, who married Byron Averill and has a son Donald. Mrs. Fisher also had a half-sister, Mrs. Arthur Herman.

Mrs. Fisher was a charter member of Mary B. West-nedge Auxiliary of the United Spanish War Veterans, and served as President from 1921 - 23, and was a Past-President of the Department of Michigan. At the time of her death she had been Treasurer for a number of years and held the office of Judge Advocate. She was also very active as a member of the Women of Moose and was completing at the time of her death, her second term as Regent.

August 25, 1935, she attended a Veterans picnic at Lake LaGrange, near Dowagiac, and was hit by an automobile and died September 3, 1935. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend Cornelius Schwartz. Burial was made in Riverside cemetery.

Lyle Edward Fisher



L Y L E E D W A R D F I S H E R

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Lyle Edward Fisher was born in Bronson Hospital, Kalamazoo, Michigan, July 30, 1920, son of Floyd Earl and Marilla Bagley Fisher. Floyd, who was of English descent, had spent, at the time of this writing in 1942, thirty-seven years of his life in Richland, Michigan. His wife "Rilla" is of English and Scotch-Irish ancestry and her entire life has resided in Richland.

Lyle was their only child and attended the Richland Agricultural School, from the high school of which he was graduated in 1938. Following his graduation Lyle worked with his father for three and one-half years in the grocery business.

He was an ardent basket-ball fan, enjoyed hunting and fishing and pitched quoits. He was a great reader and absorbed the better things in literature. He liked nothing better on a winter evening than a good book. Lyle was an intelligent young man, was easily a leader at school although he disclaimed any special ability. Whenever the teachers or students selected him for some prominent part in school

activities, Lyle unselfishly asked that some one else be given the honor. He had a ready smile and a kind word for everyone and was always helping others. To his work with his father he gave careful attention to pleasing patrons.

Lyle was raised in the Sunday school and church and was baptized in the old Methodist Church in Richland, thereby becoming a preparatory member.

On July 15, 1941, while delivering groceries for the store, he was instantly killed in an automobile accident. Funeral services were conducted by the Reverend Ralph M. Felix in the Richland Presbyterian Church and burial was in the Richland cemetery. The large concourse of friends who called at the home and the numbers attending the funeral services testified to the popularity of this splendid young man.

"Not beneath the grasses,
Nor yet within the tomb:
But in the Father's mansion,
Living in another room."

Shall I doubt my Father's mercy,
Shall I think of Death as doom?
Or the stepping 'cross the threshold
To a bigger, better room?

Shall I blame my Father's wisdom?
Shall I sit bowed down in gloom,
When I know my son is happy
Waiting in another room?"

william Fisher



W I L L I A M F I S H E R

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William Fisher was born in Yates County, New York, March 14, 1843, son of Nancy Frazee of French extraction and George Fisher of German descent.

While William was yet a boy the family came to Michigan and moved to a farm north of the village of Richland.

December 14, 1862, William Fisher enlisted in Kalamazoo in Company H, Seventh Michigan cavalry and served under General George A. Custer. He was in the battle of Gettysburg and other important encounters and at Berryville, West Virginia, and was wounded in the foot by a shell which killed seven horses. Mr. Fisher served frequently as messenger, carrying sealed orders. He was mustered out at Leavenworth, Kansas, December 15, 1865, after which he served with the Cavalry in campaigns against the Indians on the plains of the West, expeditions extending into Wyoming. He then returned to his father's home.

William Fisher had the following brothers and sisters: Susanna, who married Marvin McNinch, deceased;

Humphrey, deceased, married Alice Waite; Frances, deceased, married Delbert Monroe; Arthur, deceased, married Rena Hart.

For his first wife, William Fisher married Mary Cushman of Otsego and for a time the young couple made their home in Otsego. They were the parents of: Wilbur and Marvin, both deceased, and Frances, who married Harry G. Meech, is the mother of Harry and Mary Jane and resides in Kalamazoo.

In 1886, Mr. Fisher went to Eldorado, Kansas, and bought a farm. There he met Carrie E. Mills of Greenville, Illinois, and they were married September 14, 1887. They made their home in Richland where he engaged in the meat business until he retired. They were the parents of Marguerite, born February 4, 1893, married Julian Geras Lambert November 19, 1927.

Mr. Fisher attended the Presbyterian Church and belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and had held various offices in that order. He was a Republican in politics and at one time was elected village treasurer. He was very fond of horses and once owned a horse that later was reported as sold in New York city for around \$75,000. He enjoyed telling war stories and could tell them well. Most

of his life was spent in Richland, but in addition to the time he spent in Otsego, Michigan, and Eldorado, Kansas, he lived from 1896 to 1900 in Topeka, Kansas.

Death came to Mr. Fisher February 20, 1933. The only Civil War veteran in Richland Township to survive him was Charles Barker of Richland Junction. The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend Edward V. Belles from the Presbyterian Church in Richland. The bearers were officers of the I. O. O. F. lodge and the burial service of that order was read by the Chaplain, Addison Reed. The Boy Scouts numbering twenty-five, with Scout Master James E. Bane of the Training School Faculty, attended the service in a body, carrying the flag, were first in the procession to Prairie Home cemetery where burial was made and taps were sounded by a Boy Scout.

"Some sixty years ago or more
He marched with Sherman "to the sea",
Those days of hardship, now are o'er,
Yet they were crowned with victory.

No longer comes the bugle call
"Boots and saddles" and away;
Dark, in between the shadows fall
And wrap this sad and solemn day.

Another sound - no bugle note -
Lights out; sound taps, we hear
Though the stars and stripes still float,
No soldier answers "here."

"Lights out; our comrade sleeps
Half mast the colors fall
For O! no vigil, now he keeps
Nor hears the bugle call.

Oh! hold the flag above his bed
And softly say a prayer;
This veteran - low his head -
Is under the Father's care."

- Manda L. Crocker, member W. R. C.

Written April 21, 1937.

John Junior Flamm



J O H N J U N I O R F L A M M

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John Junior Flamm was born near Richland Junction Richland township, Kalamazoo county, Michigan, February 10, 1925, the son of John and Elsie Hill Flamm, both of whom were American born.

Mr. and Mrs. Flamm were married in Fort Madison, Iowa, and also became the parents of:

Hilda, who was born in Iowa, married Earl Flora and became the mother of John Glenwood;

Glen, who was also born in Iowa, married Phyllis Heaven and they became the parents of David Glenwood and Michael James; and

Clarence, Lillian and Carl, all born in Michigan.

John Junior attended the Parchment School, after which he found employment with the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company as a wax finisher.

When he arrived at the age of eighteen he was drafted into the United States Army and assigned to the Medical Corps. He was inducted at Fort Custer and then sent to Camp Grant, Illinois, and later to Fort Dix, New Jersey, for training.

At Fort Dix John Junior was taken sick and sent to Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, District of

Columbia. Later he was transferred to Percy Jones Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan; from there he was sent to the Veteran Hospital at Hines, Illinois, where he died May 16, 1944.

Personal Characteristics

John Junior Flamm was of medium height and slender with black curly hair and brown eyes. He had a wonderful smile, a warm heart and was kind. Wherever he went John Junior made a good impression and won friends.

He joined the Boy Scouts in Parchment as soon as he was old enough to be a Cub Scout and when he was old enough he became a member of the troop of Boy Scouts.

He played baseball with the Parchment School team and later with the Mill team. He liked to draw and showed considerable artistic ability. He liked pets, especially dogs. He took a great deal of interest in boys and girls in their childhood.

John attended the Parchment Community Methodist Church and was member of the Church school and was baptized by the Reverend Harry Walker, when he was the pastor. He liked to read and enjoyed the radio. When he went into the armed service his mother sent him the Kalamazoo Gazette so he could keep in touch

with his old home town.

Military burial services were held from the Parchment Community Methodist Church Saturday, May 20th, 1944, at 2 P. M. A firing squad and bugler from Fort Custer participated in the burial service at Riverside cemetery.

John Junior Flamm lived only twenty years. His was a short life, but he packed it full of interest and enjoyment and left to his family tender memories of his fine young life. While he did not reach the line of combat, he nevertheless gave his life as no small part of the price which necessity forced upon us all in order to establish what we hope will soon become a warless world.



John Fletcher M. D.

J O H N F L E T C H E R

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John Fletcher was born at Thamesford, Ontario, Canada, November 21, 1852, being therefore in his 61st year at the time of his passing. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. John Fletcher, who reared a family of nine children, of which Dr. Fletcher was the eldest. The aged mother was still living at Binscarth, Manitoba, while three brothers and two sisters also survived him.

He spent his early life in Oxford County, Ontario, manifesting a marked taste for learning, and through reading and school work developed a wonderful mentality, which increased in power as the years passed. When a comparatively young man his health failed him and he took up a tract of land in Manitoba, working it for three years and bringing himself back to robust health. He then followed the natural bent of an intellectual nature and engaged in school teaching, which avocation he followed for 14 years with marked success. Eventually he gave up his pedagogic work and studied medicine at the Michigan College of Medicine at Detroit, being awarded a diploma in the spring of 1897.

With his credentials as a physician in hand, Dr. Fletcher came to Kalamazoo and engaged in the practice of medicine, success attending his efforts in behalf of the sick and suffering from the first. His clientele came from men and women in every walk of life, but he chose to labor largely among those of meagre means, never allowing a patient's financial status to lessen or increase his interest in a case.

His ideals were high and in following them out in his profession, he knew neither the rich nor the poor, although his heart beat ever in tender sympathy for the suffering and among them he labored much as a missionary would among the lowly.

Never was he too tired to respond to a call for medical aid, whether after a gruelling day with no rest or in the dead of night when almost pathetically in need of sleep. Night after night he went forth to minister to the suffering after a day filled with labor of the hardest kind and never did a word of complaint escape his lips.

Again and again he was warned by his brother physicians that he was burning the candle at both ends by his zeal and his wonderful fealty to his chosen profession, but he never allowed this know-

ledge to deter him from answering the call of duty, however unpleasant it might be. It is believed that this devotion to principle and the continued demand upon his strength and vitality had not a little to do with bringing on the malady that caused his death.

Preceding the years of study it took to equip himself for the medical profession he was married in 1883 to Miss Eva Hogarth, then a resident of Satina, Ontario. To this happy union were born two children. Mrs. Allison Chisholm and Miss Vera Fletcher, both of whom, with the widow survive him and reside in Kalamazoo.

Although ill for nearly a year and a half, Dr. Fletcher did not give up his practice until January 8, never returning again to the rooms where he had labored for so many years in behalf of suffering humanity.

The most skilled medical aid that Kalamazoo and Detroit afforded was applied in his case, his brother physicians recognizing the gravity of his ailment and putting forth strenuous efforts to check its progress, but it availed them naught, as the disease had insiduously sapped his vitality and when its real nature became known it had made too

great progress to other than be palliated by sedatives.

Gradually it gripped him until the unequal struggle proving much too great, he closed his tired eyelids in the sleep that knows no waking.

After an illness of more than a year from an infection of the liver, Dr. John Fletcher, 529 South Park Street, one of Kalamazoo's best known, most successful and most beloved physicians, responded to the last summons on Sunday at 5:15 P. M. While his demise was not unexpected it came none the less as a grievous and distinct shock to his sorrowing family and the host of friends of every denomination and in every walk of life.

For a week Dr. Fletcher had been failing rapidly and on Saturday he called his loved ones to his bedside, calmly and without a tremor of fear told them that he felt the end was very near, and bade them a loving farewell, going into the Dark Valley as a Christian martyr would go to the stake, with courage in his heart and a smile on his lips.

From that hour he sank rapidly, although as late as Sunday morning he recognized his wife and daughters, although too weak to more than evidence a recognition by a wan smile and a little pressure

of the hand. A little later he sank into a state of coma from which he did not awaken, passing away peacefully after a remarkable fight against overwhelming odds.

He was a member of the Odd Fellows, the New Era, Loyal American, Canadian Order of Home Circle and The Canadian Foresters.

Among the medical profession locally and, in fact, by nearly every person who was fortunate enough to share his acquaintance - or better still his friendship - Dr. Fletcher was known as "Honest John" Fletcher, such confidence did everyone have in his integrity and so implicitly was he trusted by all. Rare and beautiful was the character of this noble, gentle, charitable and unassuming Christian gentleman. Beloved as are few men in the home circle he was likewise affectionally regarded by neighbors and friends and his passing is cause for deep, genuine and lasting regret, as in his demise Kalamazoo loses one of its best and most upright citizens, who exemplified by right living and practical Christianity the faith that was in him and who left as an example to rising generations a life of purity and goodness.

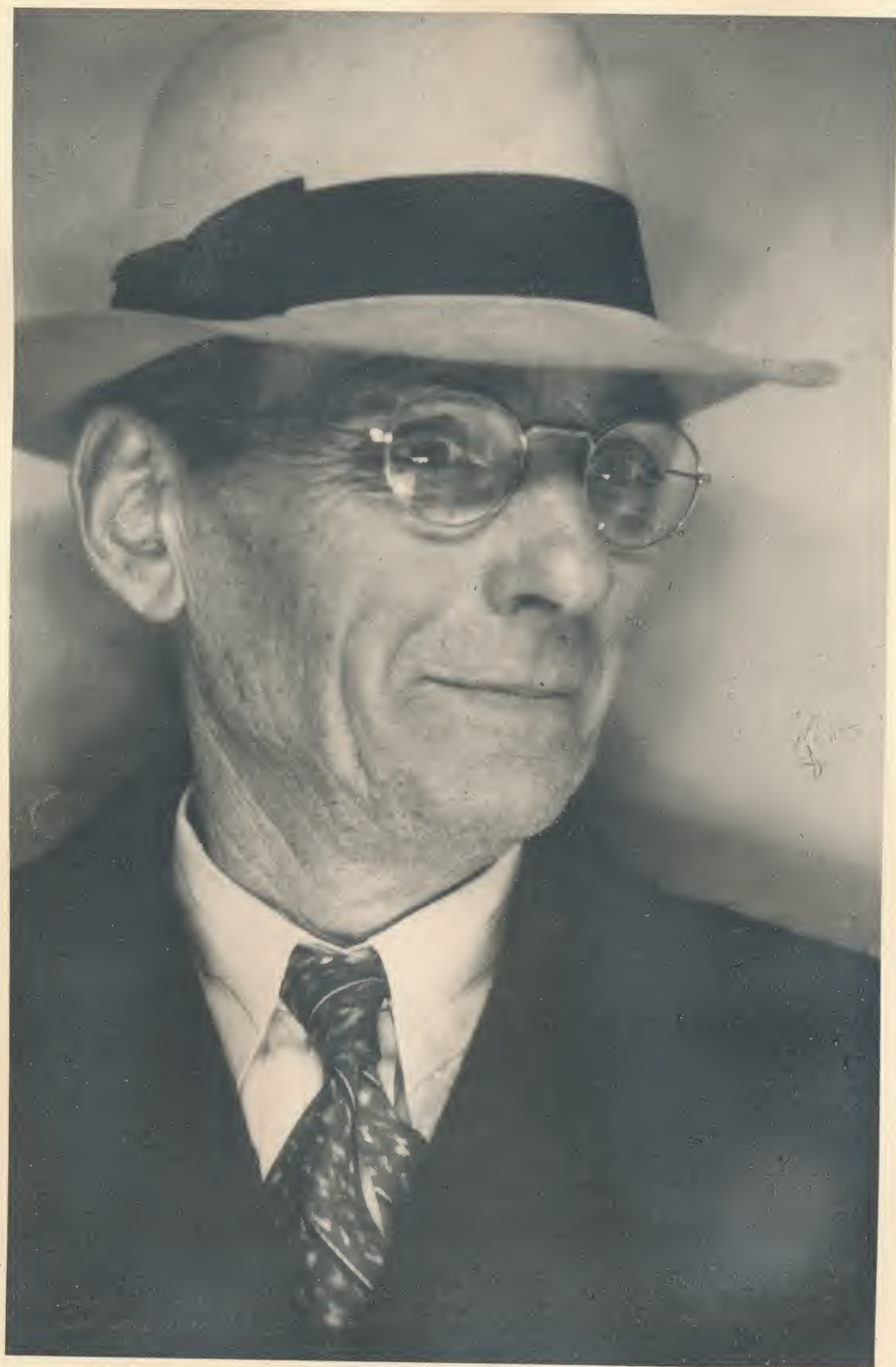
The final obsequies were observed at the

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home at 2:30 o'clock. Elder S. J. Lindsay, of Oregon, Illinois, officiating, and assisted by Rev. Mr. Walker, Baptist pastor of Detroit. Burial was at Mountain Home.

February 25, 1936

Jacob Eclipse



J A C O B F L I P S E

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Jacob Flipse was born in North Beverland, province of Zeeland, the Netherlands, August 19, 1868, the son of Jacob and Cornelia Kallewaard Flipse. His father was a farmer. When he was one and one-half years of age his father died and later Adrian Boodt became his step-father.

At the age of fourteen, the subject of this biography came with his mother and step-father and family to Kalamazoo, Michigan, and resided on Lake street. He slept the first night in a barn owned by Mr. De Kam, standing directly across from what later became his home at 1416 South Burdick street. Mr. Flipse became an American citizen at the age of twenty-one, at Racine, Wisconsin, April 2, 1889.

His first work was on the Buss farm, for about one year; then he worked for John De Smit, Sr., in the celery land; he was then employed by the Harrow Spring Works and later by the Spring and Axle Works, totalling thirty years with the two companies; he was then employed by the Bryant Paper Company for fourteen years.

Mr. Flipse was first married to Christina De Smit January 10, 1895; she was the daughter of John De Smit Sr., and Cora Lamphere De Smit, and was born in 1864 and died February 15, 1914. They began house-keeping at 112 Johnson street, Kalamazoo, where they resided for nineteen years.

On September 17, 1914, he was married to Mrs. Frances Gertrude De Smit Reeves, the daughter of John De Smit and Mary De Korn De Smit, and was the mother of Edwin Raymond Reeves, who was born March 19, 1904, and became the mother of Richard Jacob Flipse, who was born May 29, 1916.

They began house-keeping in the duplex on the corner of Upjohn Drive and South Burdick street, built by Mr. Flipse in 1913; later they moved to 1416 South Burdick street in 1928, when he bought that property, which had been developed as a florist business by Grofvert and De Smit. This place was acquired by Mrs. Frances Flipse's grand-father, Baldewine De Korn, in 1862, and has remained in the family ever since.

Mr. Flipse also owned two and one-half acres across the street from this residence and which had been purchased by him in 1895; from that he used to raise and ship celery. Later this land was platted,

but tulips and pansies are still raised there. It has a street down the center of it called Richard Avenue.

Mr. Flipse was baptized in the Netherlands in 1868, and attended the Second Reformed Church with his wife, who is a member; and he was a member of the Holland-American Society.

He died August 11, 1940.

Reverend J. J. Burggraaf conducted the funeral service from Joldersma and Kline Funeral Home and burial was in Riverside Cemetery. The bearers were: M. Boodt, D. Boodt, R. Simonds, W. Bush, J. Westvere and R. Zwart. Miss Louise Tarbet sang "The Lord is My Shepherd" and "Sleep My Love."

Frank Flynn



F R A N K W I L L I A M F L Y N N

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Frank William Flynn was born in Toledo, Ohio, May 8, 1874, son of Catherine Graf and James A. Flynn. The father, James A. Flynn, was of Irish descent, and the mother was born near Vienna, Austria. They were the parents of six children besides Frank William: Edward and Clara, who died in infancy; Sister M. Placida, S. S. J., St. Benedict's school, Highland Park; James B., of Kalamazoo; Sister Gabrielle, dean of music at Nazareth for a time; and Sister M. Conception, member of the music faculty at Nazareth at one time. The two last named are deceased.

Frank W. Flynn was organist and director of the Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church in Chicago, and also served in a similar capacity in a church in Washington, D. C., before coming to Kalamazoo. For twenty-seven years he was head of the tuning department of the Grinnell Brothers branch in this city. For thirty-one years he was director of the surpliced choir of St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church in Kalamazoo.

Mr. Flynn came from a musical family. His father was a noted Irish tenor and his mother was a distinguished member of one of Chicago's famous church

choirs; one sister and one brother were vocally gifted and two other sisters were pianists of the first rank.

Mr. Flynn's musical training began at the age of nine with lessons on the piano. With this development his vocal ability kept pace, and in his early life he was known far and wide as a boy soprano, winning numerous prizes, the most conspicuous of which was one awarded to him as the best boy soprano in Assumption College, Sandwich, Ontario, Canada.

At eighteen he organized and directed a production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "Pinafore", with a company of seventy voices, and assumed the leading role, Sir Joseph Porter, with great success. Later the "Chimes of Normandy" and other light operas were also staged under his competent direction.

Mr. Flynn became interested in serious music and he took up church work with the pipe organ and studied under Professor Fairclough, of the Cathedral of St. Paul, Minnesota, and later at Notre Dame University, Indiana. While choirmaster and organist of the Church of the Holy Cross in Chicago, he was instrumental in the development of the great boy choir, which became famous in connection with that church. It was at its best under his management which continued for several years.

Mr. Flynn had been a composer since the age of

fourteen, and he wrote much that has been of merit in both religious and secular music. He was composer of the "Panama Waltz", which was first played by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra in 1926. Other well-known numbers were "Panama Love Song", "Panama Orchids", "Star of Destiny", all of which were orchestrated.

Mr. Flynn was a member of St. Augustine's Church and belonged to the Holy Name society, and was also a member of the Knights of Columbus. He was fond of children and often took them swimming.

He was married to Aileen Butler of Kalamazoo, June 28, 1905. Mrs. Flynn is the organist of St. Augustine's Church, in Kalamazoo. His oldest son is the Reverend James Butler Flynn, assistant pastor of St. Catherine Roman Catholic Church in Detroit, Michigan; Joseph Edward is at home, and William Anthony is a student at Barbour Hall.

Frank William Flynn died February 5, 1935, and on Saturday, February 8, at 10:30 A. M. a solemn high mass was celebrated for him at St. Augustine church, his son, the Reverend James B. Flynn, served as celebrant. He was assisted by the Right Reverend Monsignor William F. Murphy of St. David church, Detroit, as deacon, and Reverend Frank Bowen, of Sturgis, sub-deacon. Reverend Lawrence Rochon of St. David church, Detroit, served as master of ceremonies and Reverend

John A. Hackett, pastor of St. Augustine church, preached the sermon. Over fifty clergymen were in the Sanctuary during the services, among them the Reverend Michael H. Pothe, C. S. S. R. of Omaha, Nebraska, and the Reverend Timothy Murphy, C. S. C. chaplain of St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana. Sisters of the Holy Cross order, Notre Dame, the Immaculate Heart order, Monroe, Sisters of St. Dominic, Grand Rapids, and Sisters of St. Joseph, Nazareth College, attended the funeral.

(The above was written in 1936)

Robert Maynard Fonner 29



R O B E R T M A Y N A R D F O N N E R

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Robert Maynard Fonner was born in Marshall, Michigan, March 13, 1919, son of Ramsey J. and Frances Raymond Fonner, the former born in Sherwood, Michigan, and the latter in Marshall, Michigan. Robert's sisters were Anna Carolyn and Marilee Elaine, both born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and now, 1944, living at home.

Robert Maynard was born while his father was in France in World War I, a Regimental Supply Sergeant, Supply Company of the 330th Field Artillery of the 85th Division.

The family moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, when Robert was two years old and all his education was secured in Kalamazoo. He was graduated from Central High School in 1936 and attended Western Michigan College of Education two years. He played the clarinet in the bands of both Central and Western and was a member of the first little Junior Symphony organized in Kalamazoo. He also had one year in Parsons Business College. He took the Civil Service examination and was accepted on his twenty-first birthday as a

clerk in the United States Post Office in Kalamazoo, where his father had been employed for some time. He remained in that service for two years and then enlisted as an Aviation Cadet on January 12, 1942. He was sent first to Kelly Field, then to Uvalde, Texas, and then to Randolph Field. He was graduated and received his wings and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant at Kelly Field September 6, 1942, following which he was sent to Sebring, Florida, for two and one-half months special training on the B 17 Flying Fortress. He was graduated and got his diploma November 18, which was the twenty-fifth anniversary of his parents' wedding.

From Sebring, Lieutenant Fonner was sent to Boise, Idaho, for advanced training. March 9, 1943, he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Until April 1, 1943, he was flying over Oregon, Washington and South Dakota for training in mountain flying.

He was then given his only furlough and returned to Kalamazoo for five days, after which he was ordered to Salina, Kansas, to embarkation center. From there he left for overseas, flying his own plane and landing in Africa about May 10, 1943. For the first two weeks he ferried planes to the front and was then sent into combat, some over Sicily and some over Italy, and was killed in action July 16, 1943. When his plane fell at

Reggio Calabria, Italy, across from Messina straits, five others of his crew perished in the crash caused by enemy action and three managed to reach the ground alive and were taken prisoners.

From Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, the parents received the Purple Heart medal and citation, while the war department award included the U. S. army air medal with Oak Leaf Cluster.

Lieutenant Robert Maynard Fonner also held the honor of having been selected as a member of the Colin P. Kelly squadron, named in honor of Captain Kelly who became a national hero after sinking a Japanese battleship.

General H. H. Arnold wrote of him:

"Lt. Fonner earned the respect of his comrades by establishing a fine record in the Army Air Forces, and...will long be remembered by those who fought beside him. His accomplishments as an aviation cadet have been called to my attention and it is gratifying to know also how devotedly he served our Country's Cause after graduation at Kelly Field.

"Not only was he an outstanding and courageous pilot who cheerfully undertook any assigned duties, but he was one of the most popular officers in his group, having a co-operative attitude and a friendly word for all. Your son gave his utmost in the service."

Captain Stephen W. Henry wrote:

"Your son . . . was in every sense a gentleman," an officer and a pilot; truly the Air Corps at its finest....Bob's loss to the squadron has been keenly felt and is one which

cannot be readily replaced in any measure."

Personal Characteristics

Lt. Robert M. Fonner was six feet three inches tall of slender build with red hair and brown eyes and an engaging personality, a splendid example of physical manhood.

He was a fine mathematician and a good thinker, a charming, cultured young man, at home and at ease with all kinds of people. It was reported that he always looked out for the interests of his men first, giving unselfish devotion to their needs. He made friends and kept them through the years. He took responsibility seriously and did his duty faithfully. His name adds honor to the growing list of splendid young men from Kalamazoo who have given their lives for the preservation of liberty.

John Paul Fochey



J O H N P A U L F O O H E Y

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"To live in hearts we leave behind
Is not to die." - Campbell,
Hallowed Ground

John Paul Foohey, son of John M. and Margaret Pultz Foohey, was born on June 17, 1898 in Bluffton, Indiana.

Upon completion of his elementary education in St. Patrick's parochial school in Fort Wayne, Indiana, he attended the Fort Wayne Central Catholic High School. As a student in high school he not only achieved individual recognition through his oratorical ability but was accorded distinction as an honor student and upon being graduated he received a scholarship at Notre Dame University where he took up the study of law, completing his course in 1917.

During the World War Mr. Foohey was commissioned a Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve Corps. Upon discharge from military service at the close of the war in 1918, Mr. Foohey successively was identified in sales work at the Athenaeum, a business college in Fort Wayne, and with the Wayne

FORM 1-1-12 1-1-12

1918 - 1918

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE
IN THE CITY OF
WASHINGTON

John W. Fisher, son of John W. and Margaret
Fisher, was born on June 17, 1918 in
Tulsa.

Upon completion of his elementary education
in St. Francis' parochial school in Tulsa, Oklahoma,
he attended the Tulsa Central Catholic
High School. As a student in high school he
was a member of the National Catholic Student
Organization and was awarded distinction as
an honor student and upon being graduated he
received a scholarship to St. Lawrence University where
he took up the study of law, completing his course
in 1937.

During the World War Mr. Fisher was commissioned
as a lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve
Group. Upon discharge from military service at the
close of the war in 1918, Mr. Fisher immediately
was identified in sales work at the University,
business college in Tulsa, and with the Tulsa

Tank and Pump Company.

In 1919, Mr. Foohey was married to Helen Catherine Eckrich, daughter of Peter Eckrich, founder of Peter Eckrich & Sons, Inc. Into their home two sons and a daughter were born, John Paul, Mary Bernadette, and Patrick Terrence.

In 1929, Mr. Foohey was employed as a sales manager with Peter Eckrich & Sons, Inc., and rose rapidly through various departmental operations until selected as General Sales Manager of the company, a position in which he directed the aggressive growth and development of the organization throughout Indiana and Michigan. The company's growth necessitated dual-state direction and Mr. Foohey, with headquarters in Kalamazoo, Michigan, took charge of the enlarged production and sales responsibilities and in 1938 was named Vice-President and General Manager. On November 4, 1940 he was elected to the Presidency of Peter Eckrich & Sons, Inc, and a month later, while recuperating from an attack of pneumonia, died in Coral Gables, Florida, December 6, 1940. Interment was in the Catholic Cemetery, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The personality of John Paul Foohey was an irresistable naturalness that excited interest and

York and New York Company.

In 1919, Mr. Fenchel was married to Helen

Delmerine Fenchel, daughter of Peter Fenchel,

founder of Peter Fenchel & Sons, Inc. After their

were two sons and a daughter were born, born 1921,

and daughters, and several daughters.

In 1929, Mr. Fenchel was employed as a sales

manager with Peter Fenchel & Sons, Inc., and later

rapidly through various departmental positions

until selected as General Sales Manager of the

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extensive growth and development of the organization.

From throughout Indiana and Michigan. The

company's growth was reflected in the following

and Mr. Fenchel, with headquarters in Baltimore,

Michigan, took charge of the enlarged production and

sales responsibilities and in 1938 was named Vice-

President and General Manager. On October 1, 1940

he was elected to the Presidency of Peter Fenchel &

Sons, Inc. and a year later, after reorganizing

from an office in Baltimore, died in April 1942,

Florida, December 6, 1942. Interment was in the

Catholic Cemetery, Fort Myers, Indiana.

The personality of John Paul Fenchel was an

irrepressible individualism that inspired interest and

inspired activity in the hearts of all who knew him. His was the kind of dynamic rarity in human character that makes its presence felt at great distances and through periods of time far beyond physical nowness. His personality was that inherent trait which emotionalizes human thought and stimulates his associates to higher and more ennobling conceptions of human worthness - the kind of God-given soulness that sustained John Paul Foohey when he assayed the needs of others and on countless occasions when he reflected upon a job well done.

As the directing influence in creating and organizing The Eckrich Employees' Profit Sharing Trust Fund, the personality of John Paul Foohey was further perpetuated. As a living trust, for the benefit of all loyal workers in the Eckrich company, his far-sightedness and good judgment will serve as an incentive to Eckrich employees that they may work and live with unswerving integrity with and for each other.

In political belief, John Paul Foohey regarded individual merit a pre-requisite to party or personal preference. He had no conflict with men of opposing viewpoints. He had the courage to face facts. The benevolence of his smile inspired

inspired activity in the hearts of all who knew him.
He was the kind of person who felt in human nature
and that makes his presence felt at great distances
and through periods of time far beyond physical
proximity. His personality was that of a great
which revolutionized human thought and action.
His association to him and with mankind
conceptions of human existence - the kind of
God-given freedom that awaited John Paul Jones
when he was in the hands of others and on conditions
unknown when he returned upon a job well done.
He was a living witness to a living ideal, for the
sustaining the human element in society and
that Paul, the personality of John Paul Jones was
further personified. He is a living ideal, for the
benefit of all levels of the human community,
his forthrightness and good judgment will serve as
an incentive to human progress that will not
rest nor live with unswerving integrity with and for
each other.
In political belief, John Paul Jones regarded
individuals as free-regulators of their own
personal existence. He had no conflict with men
of opposing opinions. He had the courage to
face facts. The responsibility of his name inspired

confidence in others. Void of verbosity and buffoonery, the personality of John Paul Foohey was an entity of placid helpfulness, to direct, to inspire, to respect. His personal and business philosophy of living, in private discourse, in group comment or in public eulogy, distinctly was his own. He visualized without restraint. In his perspective were both length and breadth. His yesterdays were of the past. He wasted no words. He lived.

To those who knew John Paul Foohey with a degree of intimacy he was "a good fellow." In civic affairs and philanthropies it was said of him that "the quality of mercy is not strained," for he responded promptly and generously to the need of the moment. The Community Chest, Elk's Christmas Party, the Starr Commonwealth, the Exchange Club's Fund for Needy Children, St. Augustine Church, the Catholic Athletic Field - each was a beneficiary to his substantially sympathetic selfness.

Through his energetic support of the many enterprises of St. Augustine Church in Kalamazoo a new grade school and the Catholic Athletic Field were planned and provided. Mr. Foohey's fealty as a member and communicant in the faith of the Church was constant and unwavering throughout his life,

from the earliest environmental background.

Monsignor Hackett of St. Augustine Parish in tribute to Mr. Foohey has said:

"The most predominant characteristic of John Paul Foohey was his unselfish loyalty. Such a quality is indeed rare in a world so universally stricken with greed. When he gave himself to anything that claimed his attention, he did so without reserve. Half-hearted measures never entered his make-up. Whether it was his family, his church, his business, his friends, or anything else, he gave himself unreservedly or he didn't give at all. His loyalty could be depended upon with the same assurance that tomorrow the sun will rise and set."

And in other good-fellowship association, as a member of the Kalamazoo Country Club, the Park Club and the Elks, Paul Foohey commanded the deepest admiration and respect.

He linked the commonplace with the aesthetic. He was an accomplished violinist, sharing with others his personal enjoyment and artistic interpretations of the memoried melodies of Beethoven, Bach, Wagner, Mendelssohn. His heart was attuned to the choicest things in life.

He travelled extensively to mingle and talk with peoples of other lands. Good books were his cherished possession. Hunting and fishing were his hobbled escape from workaday care and were Mr. Foohey's symphony of silence that permitted

uninterrupted planning for tomorrow's task. Never did he fail to rise to the occasion, whatever the emergency required - at work, at home, or at play.

One of his closest friends, Attorney Edwin Gemrich, says of him:

"I have always felt that if you wanted to know a man's true character you should do more than meet him socially or in business affairs. Somehow the sharing of mutual discomforts and pleasures in the field bares a man's finest and worst characteristics. Paul certainly stood that test for a more excellent hunting and sports companion would be hard to find. Always cheerful, pursuing life with a zest and eagerness which acted as a constant stimulus to his friends, his place is hard to fill in the group of men who knew him best.

"Nor was it in the field of sports alone that his qualities were outstanding. His versatility and the scope of his knowledge were so great that sometimes they seemed all inclusive. His mind seemed to grasp and hold points at a speed that left us amazed. Many times, since he has gone, we have discussed the possible heights he might have reached had he continued to stay with us. His passing has left a void in the lives of his friends which is impossible to fill, but so great was the force of his character that it is stamped indelibly on the memory of each of us."

From a December, 1940 issue of the Eckrich Employees' Bulletin the following is repeated:

"To JPF:

In silent tribute let us pause and
reaffirm a vow
To carry through courageously in future
years, as now

"Those high ideals in comradeship of
 Honesty and Right
 For which you fought so valiantly, with
 all your living might:

"And, although we are to be denied the
 privilege of continued counsel and leadership
 which a living association with him made
 possible, we ever shall be grateful and our
 lives will be enriched by the heritage which
 Mr. J. P. Foohey, our beloved president has
 left us. His ideals will provide inspiration
 and guidance for us to follow through,
 determined to help each other enjoy good
 health and happiness and to avoid every
 condition which permits injury or illness
 to one of our fellow workers."

Ever mindful of the well being of others and
 ever thoughtful to the end, Mr. Foohey's philosophy
 of living is conveyed to a few of his intimate
 friends in these words, written during his last
 illness:

"When Doctor shakes his head and says:
 'Be patient if you can'
 And Mother flicks away a tear that
 very near began -
 Then it's a lot of comfort (as I
 can easily tell)
 For your friends to be a-worryin' and
 wishin' you'd get well.

"And so I kinda like to think that if
 the time should come
 When you'd be on the sidelines, a little
 on the bum -
 I'll be around and thinkin' of a friend
 who's mighty swell -
 And worryin' and wishin' and prayin'
 YOU'D get well!"

- Paul Foohey



George Foote

GEORGE E. FOOTE

Mr. George E. Foote, one of Kalamazoo's most prominent, professional and fraternity men was born in Cobleskill, New York, and came to Kalamazoo with his parents in 1884. He was graduated from the Kalamazoo High School in 1890, and then entered the University of Michigan. But soon after entering he decided to return to Kalamazoo to enter the pension law offices of his father, the late Charles E. Foote and after his father's death he carried on the business in which he remained until his death. He and his father were noted pension attorneys.

Early in his young manhood, Mr. Foote developed a keen interest in Masonic work and he became in the course of a few years a member of all the Kalamazoo Masonic fraternities. He was a Past Master of Anchor Lodge # 87, F. & A. M., and a Past Commander of Peninsular Commandery # 8, Knights Templar. He was also secretary for many years of Kalamazoo Chapter # 13, Royal Arch Masons. Besides these he was a loyal and devoted member of Kalamazoo Council, Corinthian Chapter # 123, Order of the Eastern Star, White Shrine of Jerusalem and Saladin Temple Shrine of Grand Rapids. He is said to have done as much

constructive work in the progress of Kalamazoo Masonic fraternities as any other one man in the city.

He was a great lover of his home and enjoyed nothing better than to entertain his friends. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, to which he was most devoted. He passed away Monday afternoon at four o'clock, October 11, 1926, at the age of 54 years. He had been ill for a period of ten years, the last four of which he was confined continuously to his home. But in all that time he kept his sunny and cheery disposition which was so characteristic of him always.

He practiced in his every day life the principles of Christian living, and he was a staunch and true friend to all and was held in high esteem by all who knew him.



Emma Adelaide Sumner Ford

E M M A A D E L A I D E S U M N E R F O R D

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Mrs. Emma Adelaide Sumner Ford was born on June 19, 1856, in the village of Richland, Michigan, her parents having come to Michigan in early days from Vermont. She recalled clearly the night in 1861 when her oldest brother, John Sumner, climbed from his window down a ladder and left home to join the Union Army during the Civil War. She also recalled that her family moved from Richland to Galesburg during the Civil War. She was graduated from the Galesburg High School and was a teacher in schools about Galesburg. In 1875, at the age of nineteen, she left home and went to Copper Harbor, Michigan, which was then a thriving copper mining town and taught school in that place at the request of her uncle, Daniel Brockway, who was one of the pioneers in the copper country.

Subsequent to her decease in Galesburg on July 21, 1940, at the age of eighty-four, many programs were found among her effects of various events which she had attended in the copper country and in the Civil War days.

She was married in 1880 to Charles B. Ford and moved with him to Kalamazoo in 1883 and spent most of her life in Kalamazoo where her husband was engaged for many years in the manufacturing business. In 1910, however, her husband retired from business and purchased a farm south of Galesburg, where she lived for many years until 1920, when they moved to the village of Galesburg, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

Mr. Ford was elected Village Treasurer and later Justice of the Peace. He served in those offices for many years and after his decease, his wife succeeded to the office of Justice of the Peace, which she filled for thirteen years and declined to be a candidate again for re-election at the age of eighty-two.

Mrs. Ford was very active in the Congregational Church in Galesburg and served as a trustee and as a deaconess and as President of the Women's Society of that church.

At the time of her death in Galesburg on July 21, 1940, she was survived by one child, Attorney Frank F. Ford of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and one grand-child, Frank F. Ford, Jr., who was then a student in Marine Engineering at the University of Michigan.

The son married in 1880 to Maria D. Ford and

moved with her to California in 1882 and spent some

of her life in California where she married and

remained for many years in the household of her mother.

In 1880, however, her husband retired from business

and purchased a large ranch at Colton, where she

lived for many years until 1885, when they moved to

the village of Colton, where they spent the

remainder of their lives.

Mr. Ford was elected Village Treasurer and

after leaving of the office. He served in 1880

and after his death, his

wife succeeded to the office of Justice of the

Peace, which was filled for thirteen years and

continued to be a candidate until her death in

the year of 1895-96.

Mr. Ford was very active in the Commercial

Union in California and served as a Justice and as

a member and as President of the Women's Society

of that church.

At the time of her death in 1895 on

July 20, 1895, she was survived by one child,

Alfred Frank F. Ford of Colton, California, and

one grand-child, Frank F. Ford, Jr., who was then a

student in Union College at the University of

California.

Deane Alvin Foster



D E A N E A L V I N F O S T E R

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Deane Alvin Foster was born in Massilon, Ohio, May 31, 1919, the son of Roy Cleveland Foster, who was born in Rockport, Missouri, August 16, 1888, the son of William Foster, a Civil War Veteran, and Cymantha Rand Foster. Roy's brothers and sisters were: Cora and Etta, deceased; Elizabeth, who married Mr. Trevithick and resides near Los Angeles, California; Simeon, deceased; William and Alvin, the latter deceased.

Roy C. Foster went to school until he reached high school and then joined a floating telephone crew for about five years, during which time he met Inez L. Ender and after Mr. Foster had gone to Massilon, Ohio, they were married in that city by the Reverend S. J. Flohr, pastor of The Reformed Church, on December 30, 1912, and they became the parents of Deane Alvin Foster.

Inez L. Ender was born June 21, 1890, in Galien, Michigan, daughter of Louis and Anna McOmber Ender, who were also the parents of:

Evelyn, who married Clifford Shemely;

Lester, the father of Juanita and William; and

Alta, who married Raymond W. McIntyre and became the mother of
Raymond, who is now, in 1944, with the
Marines,
Wesley, Anita and Icele, all at home with
their parents in Michigan City,
Indiana.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy C. Foster began housekeeping in Massilon, Ohio, and moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan, in 1924 and made their home on Locust street, where they lived until 1927, when they moved into the new house which they had built at 1203 Olmsted road.

Deane Alvin Foster attended the Vine Street School in Kalamazoo while in the first and second grades. While taking the work of the next six grades he attended the school in Recreation Park, near his home, and was graduated from the eighth grade there. He then took one year of high school work at Comstock, followed by three years in Western State High School and two and one-half years in Western Michigan College of Education. He was about one-half through his junior year in the latter when he enlisted in the Army Air Corps.

Deane was an all-city tackle in foot ball while in State High School, a rough-tough lineman who made his team a power in the Big Six conference of 1937. At Western Michigan College of Education he played a guard position and won two varsity letters. He also played basket ball, base ball, hand ball and, enjoyed wrestling, swimming and tennis, an athlete who enjoyed all the sports. **He was a Star Scout.**

As soon as Deane was twelve years of age he joined the Boy Scouts and lacked but two merits of

being qualified to become an Eagle Scout. It was said of him that he played hard, but was always fair.

Mr. William L. Koffel, a member of the faculty of the Vine Street School, wrote concerning Deane:

"Deane was a six footer, - he looked taller - with his erect shoulders and square, well placed head, crowned with thick dark hair which he always kept cut very short and trim. His eye sockets were deep, with heavy over-arching eyebrows, and his brown eyes shining forth seemed to take in everything at a glance. He wasn't handsome, but people said he was good looking because he had a very honest and sincere look. Everything he did was done with enthusiasm.

"Deane liked all kinds of sports. In school he played football, basketball and baseball, and he was an excellent swimmer. He liked the strenuous physical conflict of wrestling. He also liked the quiet, and often lazy, enjoyment of canoeing. Football was his favorite, and he took his playing seriously. As a high school tackle he 'made' the ALL-City Team. When he started playing football, he got in the habit of stopping in at our house after a game to act out all the important plays for us in the middle of the living room. Invariably he stressed his own failures and freely pardoned the mistakes of others - 'was caused by slippery grounds,' he said, or 'when we develop proper team work, he will not fail.'

"Deane was the kind of person who played hard when he played and worked hard when he worked. During summer vacations, he worked on a threshing machine gang and a telephone line maintenance crew. To help pay for his college expenses, he worked part time at various jobs. One year he and another student split a full time job as gas station attendant, and another year he worked a night shift in a paper mill while learning to be a mill wright.

"Deane had many friends because he was a true friend. He often asked three or four boys to

his home for a 'stag' party and to spend the night with him. His fun was wholesome, he was without guile or pretense. He had a keen understanding of people and was equally liked and respected by people of all walks of life. Utterly lacking in selfishness, he gave of his best to make others happy. He appreciated the value of fair play. He worked hard and faithfully at the task in hand; whether enjoyable sports or hard labor, it was well done.

"He was a Christian and followed the dictates of his own conscience regardless of the jibes from others.

"His junior year in college at Western, Deane enlisted in the Army Air Corps. He had taken the Civilian Pilot Training Course offered at school and knew he wanted to fly. The flying was easy but the technical study was difficult. In any aviator's course, time is precious. Off duty he remembered his friends and his parents with pictures and letters, all telling of his sight-seeing visits to cities near camps. He made a good pilot and was entrusted with commands at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho; and Geiger Field, Spokane, Washington. On one long distance phone call, he took the time and patience to have his crew present and to introduce each one personally to his dad and mother. Then one night he again called to say, 'we are on our way.' On November 10, 1942, he was reported missing in the Hawaiian area, but every one of us feel that he will never be missing from the hearts of many people."

Deane enlisted in January, 1941, and was inducted at Fort Custer, and was sent from there to Spartan Field, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was sworn in as a cadet at Fort Custer and won a private pilot's license by completing the aviation course under the joint sponsorship of the U. S. army air corps and Western Michigan College of Education. He completed his basic training at Goodfellow field, San Angelo,

Texas, September 13, 1941, and took the final stage of aviation instruction at Brooks field, San Antonio, Texas, where he received his silver wings and the gold bars of a Lieutenant December 12, just after Pearl Harbor and all leaves were cancelled. He later received his promotion to First Lieutenant while in actual flying duty at Geiger field, Spokane, Washington.

When word came from the War Department that First Lieutenant Deane Alvin Foster was missing he had been a pilot of a B 24 Liberator in the South Pacific battle area less than a month. When his parents received the message, the father said: "We will carry on. We are not giving up hopes. If Deane was given half a chance he will make it, we are sure. We had been looking for word from our son and naturally this message comes as a great shock to us, but, we do not feel that we are any different than the parents of thousands of other boys serving their country. More than ever now is the time for clear thinking and steady nerves."

The official date of Deane's death was recorded as November 8, 1943.

A memorial service was held for Lieutenant Deane Alvin Foster at the Wilson Memorial Methodist Church at two o'clock in the afternoon of January 16, 1944, conducted by Chaplain W. R. Lanpher from Kellogg Field, assisted by Dr. Ernest Burnham.

Lt. Foster was a member of the Wilson Memorial Methodist Church and his parents plan to place a suitable permanent memorial there, probably a very fine pulpit Bible.

Mrs. Foster, Deane's mother, is a supervisor in Red Cross work and has spent more than two thousand hours in sewing projects since her boy enlisted, and Deane's father has bought more than his quota of war bonds. Together they planted a Victory Garden before the government began urging people to plant them.

The following are some of the things said at the memorial service:

"No man has greater love than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. This he certainly did that the principles of truth and righteousness may prevail.

"Can a man make a better gift to humanity? Some one has said 'The measure of a man's power to help his brother man is the measure of the love in the heart of him that at last the good will win. With that love that seeks not its own, and the faith that grips the heart of things he goes forth to meet many failures but not that of defeat.'

"It may seem to some that such an end of life was a defeat, but defeat may be often victory in disguise.

"Christ's life seemed a defeat but was it? Out of that life came a blessing to humanity and such may be the case of those who are giving of their lives now, that a greater good may come to others in the years to come.

"We can always have the sacred memory that he

fought a fight with all his might -

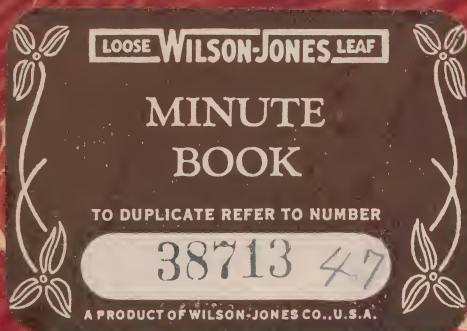
'For God and justice, truth and right;
To lift today above the past;
To make tomorrow sure and fast;
To nail God's colors to the mast;
To break down old dividing lines;
To carry out his Lord's designs;
To build again His broken shrines;
To set all burdened people free,
And win for all God's liberty.'

"That is what we are all fighting for, that
humanity may have a new birth of freedom, that
we may go on to higher and better things for
all.

"It can always be a comfort to us that our
loved ones have lived the right kind of a life
and did all they could to help their brother
man win by going the second mile as Christ did.
I hope his parents may realize that their lives
have been made richer because he lived.

'And yet, dear heart, remembering thee,
Are we not richer than of old.
What change can reach the wealth we hold,
What change can mar the pearl and gold
Thy love hath left in trust with us.
We cannot feel that thou art far
When near at need the angels are:
And when the sunset gates unbar,
Shall we not see thee waiting stand
And white against the evening star
The beckoning of thy welcoming hand.'"





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